

Notice of Environment and Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee



Date: Wednesday, 25 February 2026 at 6.00 pm

Venue: HMS Phoebe, BCP Civic Centre, Bournemouth BH2 6DY

Membership:

Chairman:

Cllr C Rigby

Vice Chairman:

Cllr D d'Orton-Gibson

Cllr B Chick

Cllr J Clements

Cllr J Edwards

Cllr M Gillett

Cllr C Goodall

Cllr J Martin

Cllr A-M Moriarty

Cllr Dr F Rice

Cllr V Ricketts

All Members of the Environment and Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee are summoned to attend this meeting to consider the items of business set out on the agenda below.

The press and public are welcome to view the live stream of this meeting at the following link:

<https://democracy.bcpCouncil.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?MIId=5920>

If you would like any further information on the items to be considered at the meeting please contact: Rebekah Rhodes or email rebekah.rhodes@bcpcouncil.gov.uk

Press enquiries should be directed to the Press Office: Tel: 01202 454668 or email press.office@bcpcouncil.gov.uk

This notice and all the papers mentioned within it are available at democracy.bcpCouncil.gov.uk

AIDAN DUNN
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

17 February 2026

**DEBATE
NOT HATE**



Available online and
on the Mod.gov app

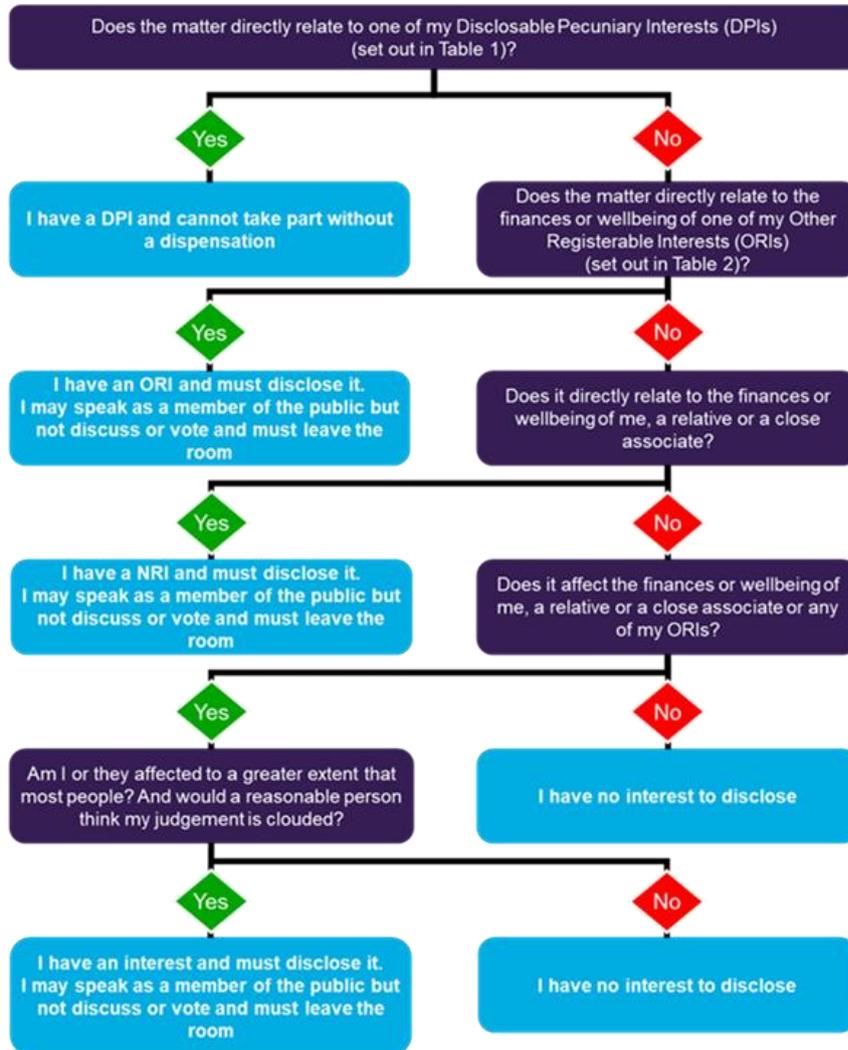


Maintaining and promoting high standards of conduct

Declaring interests at meetings

Familiarise yourself with the Councillor Code of Conduct which can be found in Part 6 of the Council's Constitution.

Before the meeting, read the agenda and reports to see if the matters to be discussed at the meeting concern your interests



What are the principles of bias and pre-determination and how do they affect my participation in the meeting?

Bias and predetermination are common law concepts. If they affect you, your participation in the meeting may call into question the decision arrived at on the item.

Bias Test

In all the circumstances, would it lead a fair minded and informed observer to conclude that there was a real possibility or a real danger that the decision maker was biased?

Predetermination Test

At the time of making the decision, did the decision maker have a closed mind?

If a councillor appears to be biased or to have predetermined their decision, they must NOT participate in the meeting.

For more information or advice please contact the Monitoring Officer

Selflessness

Councillors should act solely in terms of the public interest

Integrity

Councillors must avoid placing themselves under any obligation to people or organisations that might try inappropriately to influence them in their work. They should not act or take decisions in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their family, or their friends. They must declare and resolve any interests and relationships

Objectivity

Councillors must act and take decisions impartially, fairly and on merit, using the best evidence and without discrimination or bias

Accountability

Councillors are accountable to the public for their decisions and actions and must submit themselves to the scrutiny necessary to ensure this

Openness

Councillors should act and take decisions in an open and transparent manner. Information should not be withheld from the public unless there are clear and lawful reasons for so doing

Honesty & Integrity

Councillors should act with honesty and integrity and should not place themselves in situations where their honesty and integrity may be questioned

Leadership

Councillors should exhibit these principles in their own behaviour. They should actively promote and robustly support the principles and be willing to challenge poor behaviour wherever it occurs

AGENDA

Items to be considered while the meeting is open to the public

1. Apologies

To receive any apologies for absence from Councillors.

2. Substitute Members

To receive information on any changes in the membership of the Committee.

Note – When a member of a Committee is unable to attend a meeting of a Committee or Sub-Committee, the relevant Political Group Leader (or their nominated representative) may, by notice to the Monitoring Officer (or their nominated representative) prior to the meeting, appoint a substitute member from within the same Political Group. The contact details on the front of this agenda should be used for notifications.

3. Declarations of Interests

Councillors are requested to declare any interests on items included in this agenda. Please refer to the workflow on the preceding page for guidance.

Declarations received will be reported at the meeting.

4. Confirmation of Minutes

7 - 16

To confirm and sign as a correct record the minutes of the Meeting held on 19 November 2025.

5. Recommendation Tracker

17 - 54

To consider any updates to the recommendation tracker.

6. Recommendations from Portfolio Holders, Cabinet or Council

55 - 60

The Council's constitution provides that Overview and Scrutiny (O&S) Committees may consider requests for work from a range of sources, including requests from Portfolio Holders, Cabinet and Council.

The O&S Committee is asked to consider a request for scrutiny recently made by Council, and to determine the request in line with the associated constitution procedure rules.

7. Public Issues

To receive any public questions, statements or petitions submitted in accordance with the Constitution. Further information on the requirements for submitting these is available to view at the following link:-

<https://democracy.bcpccouncil.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CommitteeID=151&Info=1&bcr=1>

The deadline for the submission of public questions is mid-day Thursday 19 February 3 clear working days before the meeting.

The deadline for the submission of a statement is midday Tuesday 24 February the working day before the meeting.

The deadline for the submission of a petition is Tuesday 10 February 10 working days before the meeting.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

8. **Climate Action Annual Report**

61 - 104

This report presents the sixth annual update to Cabinet on progress towards commitments made in the BCP Council Climate and Ecological Emergency Declaration, made on the 16 of July 2019.

In the 2024-2025 year, progress against the main commitments is:

- Make BCP Council and its operations carbon neutral by 2030 - scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions **reduced by 20.9%** from the 2019 baseline
- Work with the wider community to make the region carbon neutral before 2045 – according to data released in 2025, total area-wide emissions for 2024 had **reduced by 17.7%** from the 2019 baseline.

Overall, both the Council and the wider BCP area have made progress since 2019, supported by clearer roadmaps, better data, strengthened governance and growing collaboration across sectors.

Continued acceleration, investment and partnership working will be essential to stay on track for the 2030 and 2045 targets.

9. **Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2026-2031 Update**

105 - 176

Homelessness continues to be one of the most significant challenges facing Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole. Demand for assistance has risen sharply, driven by rising private rents, household income pressures and increasing complexity of need. In 2024 to 2025, BCP Council determined that 2,767 households needed formal intervention because of their homelessness or threat of homelessness, representing a doubling of demand compared with 2020. Rough sleeping reached a peak of 193 individual people seen over the month of July 2024 before beginning to reduce through targeted outreach, expanded supported housing and strengthened multi agency work.

The proposed Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2026 to 2031 sets out a long term, evidence based and partnership led plan for reducing homelessness and rough sleeping across the area. The Strategy is fully aligned with national Government priorities on homelessness and rough sleeping, including the emphasis on earlier prevention across public services, national commitments to reduce families and children in Bed & Breakfast, rough sleeping and the monitoring of performance within the Local Outcomes Framework.

Developed through comprehensive review, extensive engagement, consultation and strong lived experience input, the Strategy presents a

shared ambition to make homelessness in BCP rare, brief and unrepeatable. It reflects updated statutory data, changing system pressures and learning from recent years. Approval will help BCP Council and its partners strengthen prevention, reduce unsuitable temporary accommodation usage, improve multi agency practices and support people to secure and sustain safe and stable homes.

This report sets out the approach taken to developing the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2026–2031, outlines the emerging strategic direction, and seeks the Committee’s input, noting that the detailed Delivery Plan is in its final stages of development and will be presented alongside the Strategy for Cabinet approval in May 2026.

10. Work Plan

177 - 186

The Environment and Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee is asked to consider and identify work priorities for its next meeting pending a wider review of its forward plan at a future meeting.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

11. Corporate Performance Report Q2

187 - 220

BCP Council adopted ‘A shared vision for Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole 2024-28’ in May 2024.

The shared vision is the corporate strategy which sets out the council’s vision, priorities and ambitions as well as the principles which underpin the way the council works as it develops and delivers its services.

Incorporated in the vision is a set of measures of progress for achieving the vision, priorities and ambitions.

This is the performance monitoring report for Quarter Two 25-26, presenting an update on the progress measures.

The council’s delivery against its priorities and ambitions can also be monitored through the performance dashboard which is available on the council’s website providing up-to-date real time information on the progress measures.

No other items of business can be considered unless the Chairman decides the matter is urgent for reasons that must be specified and recorded in the Minutes.

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BOURNEMOUTH, CHRISTCHURCH AND POOLE COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENT AND PLACE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting held on 19 November 2025 at 6.00 pm

Present:-

Cllr C Rigby – Chairman

Cllr D d'Orton-Gibson – Vice-Chairman

Present: Cllr B Chick, Cllr J Edwards, Cllr M Gillett, Cllr C Goodall,
Cllr J Martin, Cllr A-M Moriarty and Cllr Dr F Rice

Also in Cllr M Andrews and Cllr Andy Hadley (Portfolio Holder for Climate
attendance: Response, Environment and Energy)

29. Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor Jo Clements and Councillor Vanessa Ricketts

30. Substitute Members

There were no substitute members on this occasion.

31. Declarations of Interests

There were no declarations of interest made on this occasion.

32. Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 8 October 2025 were confirmed as an accurate record and signed by the Chair.

33. Public Issues

The Committee was advised that there had been no petitions submitted by members of the public on this occasion, but that two questions and three statements had been received in relation to Agenda Item 7 (Waste Strategy for Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council 2026-2036).

Public Questions received from Mr Paul Brelsford on Agenda Item 7 (Waste Strategy for Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council 2026-2036)

Question 1

I am pleased to see that Packaging Extended Producer Responsibility (pEPR) under the producer pays principle, together with profit from BCP's commercial waste collections, has reduced the Council's waste expenditure from £36.7 million to £17.3 million, a net reduction of £19.4 million. However, was the strategy analysis extended to consider the longer-term benefits of reinvesting part of this net saving into developing new local

recycling infrastructure? Such investment could accelerate BCP's transition to a circular economy, create sustainable green jobs, support climate objectives, reduce the carbon footprint, and generate further economic value that would, in turn, benefit both BCP's finances and the environment.

Response by the Portfolio Holder for Climate Response, Environment and Energy, Councillor Andy Hadley

All services in BCP are expected to minimise their net impact on Council Tax through fees and charges where applicable. The net reduction mentioned includes £10 million which is not just commercial income but includes all waste service income such as garden waste subscriptions and the sale of other types of household waste. This figure is not a new figure and has always been included in waste management budgets which reduces the overall net expenditure of the waste service and therefore the cost to the taxpayer.

The only recent new income has been the Extended Producer Responsibility (ePR) payment of £9.4 million in 2025/26, which is a new government tax on the packaging industry. The payment is intended under the producer pays principle to make the packaging industry pay for the collection and disposal of the existing packaging waste rather than this falling to the Council Taxpayer.

If the policy is successful and works as intended, producers and retailers will seek to minimise their packaging, and we will see a reduction in this tax income year on year as packaging reduces or is switched to more recyclable materials.

The government have indicated that Councils will be inspected in order to show that they are providing effective and efficient waste services, and if any changes are recommended the ePR funding should be used to implement them.

If any new facilities are required in the future by the Council to manage its waste, a separate business and financial case will be developed, with its associated funding agreed by Councillors. Given the scale of our waste streams, and the shifting global market for recyclates, it is unlikely that the Council could create a facility at scale to be economically sustainable.

We do have plans to extend the "new 2 you" facility to divert reusable items from the waste stream.

There is still a lot of uncertainty in the UK waste industry as several new government policies have not yet started, and the impact of them on how we currently operate our waste services and any future requirements is still not fully known. We know we will have to introduce new or amended services to increase our recycling rate to 65%, but these will be evaluated as we go. We are currently monitoring the new Deposit Return Scheme in 2027 and the Emissions Trading scheme for Energy from Waste facilities in 2028.

Question 2

The communities of Bearwood and Merley are among the most affected by waste management operations, given the concentration of such activities at Canford Resource Park. The intensification of waste processing adjacent to

internationally designated environmental and ecological sites is of particular concern. Residents also experience health and wellbeing impacts linked to traffic, pollution, odour, noise, and other nuisances. Were these local impacts considered as part of the strategy review, and were any representations or concerns raised specifically on behalf of Bearwood and Merley residents by their ward councillors?

Response by the Portfolio Holder for Climate Response, Environment and Energy, Councillor Andy Hadley

This document is a high-level strategy document that discusses the principles on how we will manage our waste and the infrastructure that may be required over the next ten years and beyond. The document is designed to show how we will meet our environmental and carbon reduction targets, and any supporting actions that can be progressed following the public consultation.

There are currently waste treatment facilities, waste transfer stations and waste depots across the BCP area. This waste strategy does not look at individual sites as our requirements will be subject to market forces, availability and capacity when procuring future services.

You mentioned the circular economy in your prior question, the Strategy does emphasise the importance of the Circular economy, and the hierarchy of reduce, reuse, repair, repurpose, and recycle before “energy from waste” or landfill. We must also record and report the distances our waste travels as part of the Authority’s CO2 footprint.

If any local sites are required to meet the goals identified in the strategy and currently do not have Environment Agency permits to operate, as with all large changes to services, strategies and policies they will be agreed by Councillors through the normal democratic process. The jointly prepared Bournemouth, Christchurch, Poole and Dorset Waste Plan (2019) identifies sites for new waste management facilities to meet the county’s needs. It provides the policy framework for determining planning applications for waste management facilities up to 2033. Any new facility would need agreement through the Planning process and the Environment Agency in the normal way.

The Waste Strategy was discussed at an all Members briefing in May 2025, and available for public consultation for 4 weeks in June 2025. The Waste Strategy, alongside the consultation findings, were then discussed with and later commented on by a Member’s cross-party waste strategy group in October 2025.

The issues pertaining to Bearwood and Merley are specific to the private facilities there. Ward Councillors have been actively supporting the concerns of the community on the planning application, but that is a planning matter, and a separate issue to the overall strategy being discussed here.

**Public Statements received from Mr Paul Brelsford on Agenda Item 7
(Waste Strategy for Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council
2026-2036)**

Statement 1

The 2019 BCPD Waste Plan is based on data from 2015. This data is now outdated and superseded by actual data since 2019, which has demonstrated the waste plan forecasting to be significantly inaccurate. Moreover, the draft strategy articulates, England's management of waste is undergoing transformational change at the national level to create a circular economy.

In this context assumptions and decisions for any waste management strategies or developments through to 2033 would be at significantly undue risk of failure if based against out of date and inaccurate waste forecasts from the 2019 Waste Plan.

We would urge this committee to satisfy itself that all future waste management planning, contracts and infrastructure are based against the most recent data available and take into account the recent national level waste reduction measures.

It would also be beneficial to publish waste data information and waste strategy targets on the BCP website.

Statement 2

Many of BCPs waste management contracts expire in 2027. Whilst it's recognised the changing landscape of waste management is challenging and presents risk, it is also an opportunity. The committee should be satisfied that the strategy's vision is bold enough to ensure future contracts will be designed and sufficiently robust enough to achieve the ambitions of a circular economy.

Procurement processes will of course seek best economic value, but the strategy must go much further to meet its ambition. I would urge the committee to explore whether BCP is in a position to leverage the circular economy opportunities, and what the strategy needs to consider to be in a position to leverage the best outcome from future contracts.

This is an important point, given the refresh of the medium-term financial plan is due to be published in February.

Statement 3

The strategy must support Climate and Ecological Emergency policies, and the circular economy whilst moving waste up the hierarchy beyond both landfill and incineration, both of which are linear and not circular waste disposal treatments.

The strategy narrative is not balanced in this respect; it rightly promotes waste diversion from landfill but fails to promote waste diversion from incineration where possible. Both are equally harmful options as incineration destroys recoverable resources, with up to 51% of the residual waste stream being recyclable.

Waste incineration is known to be harmful to recycling and is also the dirtiest form of power generation in the UK.

To not address this imbalance sends the wrong message to the public about BCP's ambitions to achieve a circular economy.

We hope BCP will recognise this waste strategy represents a once in a generation opportunity to be bold in its vision to create a sustainable circular economy.

34. Waste Strategy for Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council 2026-2036

The Portfolio Holder for Climate Response, Environment and Energy presented a report, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member and a copy of which appears as Appendix 'A' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

The Committee were informed that with the UK Government progressing major waste legislation and policy reforms, the Waste Strategy for BCP Council 2026-36 had been drafted setting out clear ambitions and commitments, with consideration to the key drivers for change, to provide a pathway for enhancing our waste and recycling services over the coming decade.

Further to this the Committee were advised that the strategy will direct the retender of a major waste disposal contract in 2027 and sets out ambitions and supporting actions for progressing towards achievement of our waste and carbon targets by 2035.

In addition, the Committee were reminded of the all-member briefing which was held in May and the informal cross party working group which had been formed following the briefing to consider the required legislative impacts, developed ambitions and public consultation results.

The Committee comprehensively discussed the strategy and in particular raised the following areas of discussion: -

- Contamination of recycling bin waste.
- Batteries and in particular risks associated with batteries being included with waste and fires which had occurred as a result both in the refuse vehicles and at depots. The Committee felt that the messaging needed to be clear with regards to the disposal of batteries and concern was expressed with regards to those less able being able to dispose of batteries appropriately. In relation to this Officers advised that there were local drop off points for batteries at corner shops and supermarkets. The Committee felt that it was important to encourage more locations to accept and collect batteries for disposal.
- The role out of food bins across the Council, and contamination with food and potential issues with rats particularly in respect of flats. Officers advised in relation to this the flats would have a communal bin for food waste with each flat having a food caddy. Officers further advised that there are existing problems with contamination with

shared bins, and that it was hoped that this could be overcome by education and engagement with residents. It was highlighted that food waste was a weekly collection which was hoped would reduce the likelihood.

- Communal street bins shared across multiple properties. Officers advised that food waste bins hadn't been rolled out to such properties unless someone had indicated that they would take ownership. In relation to this a member queried whether they could have individual smaller bins and officers advised that any bins would need to not cause any obstruction and not be on the highway.
- Circular economy whereby members questioned whether there was a larger strategy around this, clarity around the costings and investment was also sought. Officers advised in relation to this that there was a commitment to the circular economy with a potential to hold repair workshops. In addition, officers further advised that the council was looking at ways in which it could support the reuse café, and that the issue was finding people with the skills who were available and whilst the council could be a conduit the reliance was on people wanting to contribute. Members also raised the importance of lobbying government to help achieve a circular economy and increase requirements on businesses.

The Chair proposed that whilst supporting Option 1, the recommendation to remove current separate kerbside battery collections that an additional point be included to read:

- (ii) and to develop a convenient battery recycling scheme with local businesses to create more easily accessible drop off points

this recommendation was seconded by Councillor Matthew Gillet and supported unanimously by the Committee.

Councillor Felicity Rice proposed amendments to section 5 of Appendix 1 to include the following: -

- Paragraph 5.1 of Appendix 1 to add the following '*and incineration*' to the end of the paragraph so that it reads '*Tendering waste disposal contracts that embed the waste hierarchy and minimise the use of **landfill and incineration***' this proposal was seconded by Councillor Chris Rigby.
- Paragraph 5.3 of Appendix 1 to add the following '*whilst also considering the carbon footprint of the type of disposal*' to the end of the paragraph so that it reads '*Prioritising waste site proximity where possible, so waste travels only as far as it needs to and reduces the significant carbon impact of transporting waste **whilst also considering the carbon footprint of the type of disposal***' this proposal was seconded by Councillor Chris Rigby.
- An additional point be included at 5.7 to read '*when considering the circular economy, we will work with our local MPs and government to influence the manufacturing industry to ensure products are made so that recycling is designed in at the manufacturing stage so that it*

does not require disposal' this proposal was not seconded and therefore fell.

The Committee discussed the proposed amendments raised by Councillor Rice, following which they were put to the vote with the additions at paragraphs 5.1 and 5.3 being unanimously agreed.

In respect of the proposed additional paragraph 5.7 which had not been taken to the vote the Chair advised that he would work with Councillor Rice to request that the Leader of the Council write to the government in regard to the circular economy.

RESOLVED that the committee supported the recommendations as set out in the report to Cabinet including Option 1 regarding the removal of current separate kerbside battery collections but requested an additional point be included in respect of this option to read: -

- (ii) **and to develop a convenient battery recycling scheme with local businesses to create more easily accessible drop off points**

and in addition, requested the strategy at appendix 1 be amended to include the following: -

- (a) **Paragraph 5.1 of Appendix 1 'A Waste Strategy for BCP Council 2026-2028' be amended to include '*and incineration*' so that the paragraph reads '*5.1 Tendering waste disposal contracts that embed the waste hierarchy and minimise the use of landfill and incineration*'; and**
- (b) **Paragraph 5.3 of Appendix 1 'A Waste Strategy for BCP Council 2026-2028' be amended to include '*whilst also considering the carbon footprint of the type of disposal*' so that the paragraph reads '*5.3 Prioritising waste site proximity where possible, so waste travels only as far as it needs to and reduces the significant carbon impact of transporting waste whilst also considering the carbon footprint of the type of disposal*'.**

Voting: Unanimous

Councillor Felicity Rice joined the meeting at 6.23pm during the debate on this item.

35. Southern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority

The Committee were provided with a presentation from the Southern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (IFCA) a copy of which has been attached to these minutes and appears as Appendix 'B' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

The Chief Officer of Southern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (IFCA), Pia Bateman presented to the Committee providing background on IFCA and how it links in with the Council, following which there was an opportunity for questions and the following areas were raised: -

- The impact of climate change on the fishing industry and a request that the importance of climate change be emphasised on the IFCA website with signposting to relevant authorities;
- Blue Ink Octopus coming into the area which is believed to be due to the warming of the waters and who have been taking advantage of the crab and lobster which has affected some areas. It was questioned in terms of when this would become a conservation issue to which the Committee were advised that it would become a conservation issue if they were deemed to be under threat.
- Farmed fish – the Committee asked whether there were any farmed fish along the coast which IFCA has responsibility for welfare, to which they were advised that IFCA managed the statutory instrument regarding compliance and enforcement but that they didn't have welfare responsibility.
- Bottom toed fishing (towing a net along the sea bead) and the effect this may have.

The Chair thanked Pia for attending and presenting to the Committee.

36. Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report

The Overview and Scrutiny Specialist presented a report, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member and a copy of which appears as Appendix 'C' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

The Committee was advised that the report presented the annual report of the Statutory Scrutiny Officer on Overview and Scrutiny (O&S) activity within BCP Council and highlighted that there was a requirement to report on the work Overview and Scrutiny to the O&S Board and Committees and then to Council.

In relation to this the Committee was advised that the presentation of the report promoted visibility of the O&S function and Council ownership of activity and any improvements required.

The Committee was informed that the annual report contained a summary and analysis of O&S activity during 2024-25, reflections on working practices and identified improvements to strengthen the O&S function.

Further to this the Committee was advised that the report version is for consideration by the O&S Board and O&S committees, providing opportunity for comment prior to the supply of the final report to Council, and that the Council would be the decision maker on any recommendations for change within the report.

In relation to this the Committee was advised that the final report to Council would be updated to incorporate the views of the O&S Board and Committees on these recommendations.

The Committee discussed Option A within the report with clarity being sought in respect of the limit of one topic to be undertaken at a time and the O&S Chairs and Vice Chairs group having the responsibility for prioritising topics.

Further to this the Committee was reassured that there would be a scoring matrix for the group to use to prioritise topics, and that relevant Chairs would report back regularly to the O&S Committees.

RESOLVED that: -

- (a) the Committee considered and commented on the annual report;**
- (b) the Committee commented on the proposed recommendation to Council that the Overview and Scrutiny committee structure as outlined in figure one be agreed.**
- (c) the Committee commented on the proposed recommendations to Council aimed at maximising the resource available for O&S work:**
 - i) for pieces of in-depth work, the constitution be updated to allow one scrutiny topic to be undertaken at a time across the whole O&S function, with one further topic being scoped during the same period.**
 - ii) the O&S Chairs and Vice Chairs group role be strengthened to include a responsibility to agree the priority of all work topics across the full O&S committee structure.**
 - iii) the O&S Chairs and Vice Chairs group strengthen scoping for all O&S topics by reviewing key lines of enquiry for topics on an ongoing basis to provide peer test and challenge.**
 - iv) the Monitoring Officer be delegated to make the associated updates to the Constitution.**

Voting: Unanimous

37. Work Plan

The Overview and Scrutiny Specialist presented a report, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member and a copy of which appears as Appendix 'D' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

The Overview and Scrutiny (O&S) Committee was asked to consider and identify work priorities for publication in a Work Plan.

The Chair reminded members of the scheduled briefing session on the 18 March on Vanlife where it was intended that there would be an opportunity for officers to brief members on the topic.

In addition, the Committee were advised of the work planning session scheduled for December via teams whereby it was intended the session would be a light touch work planning session on items already on the workplan with in-depth working planning sessions being planned for the New Year.

RESOLVED that:

the Overview and Scrutiny Committee review, update and confirm the Work Plan.

Voting: Unanimous

The meeting ended at 8.09 pm

CHAIRMAN

RECOMMENDATIONS AND ACTIONS TRACKER – OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY FUNCTION

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

UPDATED: 14.01.2026

Minute number	Item	Recommendation made <small>*items remain for monitoring until implementation is complete or committee agree to remove.</small>	Recommended to <small>*name of receiving body/ Officer, and date received</small>	Outcome <small>*accepted/ partially accepted/ rejected/ unknown.</small>	Implementation updates
Recommendations from Board meeting – 13 May 2024					
9.	A shared vision for Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole 2024-28 Strategy and Delivery Plan	<p>RESOLVED that the Board support the recommendations to Cabinet, subject to the suggested amendments from the Board:</p> <p>(a) The delivery plan be approved (b) The measures for monitoring progress and ensuring accountability for delivery be agreed.</p> <p>Note – minor amendments to the measures contained in the report were suggested by the O&S Board and captured in the full minutes of the meeting.</p>	Cabinet - 22 May 2024	Accepted	The Portfolio Holder confirmed that the amendments suggested at O&S Board had been incorporated into the revised version of the Strategy and Delivery Plan supplied for decision by Cabinet.
Recommendations from Board meeting – 16 July 2024 – No recommendations made at this meeting.					
Recommendations from Board meeting – 27 August 2024 – No recommendations made at this meeting.					
Recommendations from Board meeting – 23 September 2024 – No recommendations made at this meeting.					
Recommendations from Board meeting – 1 October 2024 – No recommendations made at this meeting.					
Recommendations from Board meeting – 21 October 2024					

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Agenda Item 5

60.	Blue Badge Service Update Report	<p>The Board resolved that:</p> <p>The Portfolio Holder/Leader and the Chief Executive be asked to write to the Department for Transport to raise the concerns outlined by the O&S Board and that the Portfolio Holder take the issue forward with local MPs and the Local Government Association to encourage local authorities to raise these issues with the Department for Transport and request that central government gives local authorities the freedom to set fees which cover the cost of administering the system and that the system should be simplified in terms of renewal processes.</p>	Portfolio Holder/ Leader/ Chief Executive	Partially accepted by the Portfolio Holder	<p>The Portfolio Holder confirmed that they had written to the Department for Transport and provided the response received to the O&S Board at its meeting on 12 May.</p> <p>It was unknown if this had been raised directly with the LGA and at the O&S Board meeting on 12 May the Portfolio Holder undertook to follow up on this.</p>
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Recommendations from Board meeting – [18 November 2024](#)

69.	O&S Budget Working Groups – findings and recommendations	<p>Recommended to Cabinet</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the principle of an inflationary increase across all parking charges be endorsed for the 2025/26 budget. 2. That it requests Officers to take into account the suggestion that an assessment be made on using a proportion of surplus income to accelerate the parking charging machine replacement programme prioritising the best value machines in order to reduce future costs (subject to the necessary procurement processes). 3. That Officers be requested to explore options to reduce costs for the Council and make the process easier for the public to pay for car parking, in particular an option to be able to pay in advance/on Council website. 	Cabinet – 10 December 2024	Partially accepted	<p>Responses provided to the Cabinet meeting on 5 February</p> <p>://ced-pri-cms-02.ced.local/documents/s55921/Appendix%203a%20-%20Portfolio%20Holder%20Responses%20to%20Budget%20Scrutiny.pdf</p>
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That it requests that Officers evaluate the retention and recruitment of Civil Enforcement Officers to ensure a robust and resilient workforce to provide an appropriate level of resource and promote safe and appropriate parking. 2. That Officers be requested to ensure adequate resourcing of parking enforcement to reduce inappropriate parking around schools. 	Cabinet – 10 December 2024	Accepted	<p>Response from Portfolio Holder received at the O&S Board meeting on 3 February 2025 :</p> <p>http://ced-pri-cms-02.ced.local/documents/s55808/responses%20from%20Cabinet.pdf</p>

		<p>The O&S Board recommend to Cabinet:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That any Resident Card offering is made fully accessible to all those who are not digitally enabled. 2. That there should be an application process for the card with a small financial contribution for the cost of processing and that the card should be a valuable offer that residents are willing to pay a small cost for, so that it can be sustainable in terms of administrative costs. 3. That any charge levied for the card should be the same regardless of the format and that consideration should be given to concessions for disadvantaged groups. 	Cabinet – 10 December 2024	Partially accepted	<p>Responses provided to the Cabinet meeting on 5 February</p> <p>://ced-pri-cms-02.ced.local/documents/s55921/Appendix%203a%20-%20Portfolio%20Holder%20Responses%20to%20Budget%20Scrutiny.pdf</p> <p>Response from Portfolio Hodler received at the O&S Board meeting on 3 February 2025 :</p> <p>http://ced-pri-cms-02.ced.local/documents/s55808/responses%20from%20Cabinet.pdf</p> <p>Note: the residents card offer did not progress as part of the budget</p>	
Recommendations from Board meeting – 9 December 2024						
19	78	Pay and Reward Progress Update	RESOLVED that Cabinet be recommended to approve option 2 of the proposed process flowchart (Appendix 1 of the report) and the commencement of collective consultation under s188 of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992 ('TULRCA'), which is a statutory obligation where an employer is proposing to dismiss 20 or more employees.	Cabinet - 10 December 2024	Accepted	Negotiations with the pay and reward progress have continued and a new offer had been made to the unions. A ballot was now taking place with the recognised trade unions and an outcome was expected by the end of June 2025. This report was brought to O&S Board and Cabinet

79	Housing Delivery Council Newbuild Housing and Acquisition Strategy (CNHAS) update and Harbour Sail acquisition	RESOLVED that the Overview and Scrutiny Board recommend that Cabinet support the recommendations as set out in the Cabinet report: Housing Delivery Council Newbuild Housing and Acquisition Strategy CNHAS update and Harbour Sail a.pdf	Cabinet - 10 December 2024	Accepted	The recommendation from Cabinet has not been put before Council because the purchase of Harbour Sail has not proceeded. This was due to timing of the purchase which affected the ability to use the grant for the purchase (which without this grant the scheme was no longer financially viable) and that title restrictions could not be altered to allow flexibility of tenure that was required. The grant has been reallocated to other property acquisitions.
81	BCP Council Libraries – Update on Library Strategy Development	RESOLVED that the Overview and Scrutiny Board recommend that Cabinet support the recommendations as set out in the Cabinet report: BCP Council Libraries Update on Library Strategy Development.pdf	Cabinet - 10 December 2024	Accepted	The Library strategy is expected to be considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Board and Cabinet in August and September 2025
Recommendations from Board meeting – 6 January 2025					
90	Devolution	Recommended to the Leader that: a: The Leader arranges an emergency Full Council Meeting at the earliest opportunity to enable a vote of ALL of the available options b: An evidence-based piece of work be undertaken on the pros and cons of a devolution arrangement with both the Solent deal AND Wessex deal, including exploring a public referendum for BCP residents.	Leader of the Council	Partially accepted	Full Council meeting was arranged for 15 January 2025. The Council meeting considered the options of both the Solent deal and the Wessex deal, further information was brought to the Council meeting and Council voted to participate in the priority programme and to move forward with the Wessex proposal.
Recommendations from Board meeting – 13 January 2025 – No recommendations made at this meeting					
Recommendations from Board meeting – 3 February 2025					

106.	Council Budget Monitoring 2024/25 at Quarter 3	RESOLVED that the O&S Board recommend to the Audit and Governance Committee that it instigate an investigation on the Carters Quay development.	Audit and Governance Committee 27 February 2025	Accepted	Update provided to the A&G Committee at its meeting on 29 May. Chief Executive agreed that a report of the governance and process could be produced for the 24 July. It was also agreed to circulate by email the updated provided by the Director, Investment and Development together with the advice previously provided by the Monitoring Officer. Carters Quay - Update.pdf A further report will be take to Cabinet
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Recommendations from Board meeting – 4 March 2025

115.	Community Governance Review – Draft Recommendations	RESOLVED: that the O&S Board Recommend to Cabinet that the draft recommendations of the Task and Finish Group relating to proposals for Burton and Winkton (A), Hum (B), Highcliffe & Walkford (C) and Christchurch Town (D) be recommended to Council, for approval for publication and consultation, without amendment.	Cabinet date – 5 March 2025	Accepted	Consultation progressed with these proposals. The Consultation closed 22 June 2025. The Working group are processing the outcome of the consultation and a report will be brought back to the October Cabinet meeting.
		RESOLVED: That the O&S Board recommend to Cabinet that the draft recommendations of the Task and Finish Group relating to Broadstone (F) and Poole Town (J) be recommended to Council, for approval for publication and consultation, without amendment.		Accepted	
		RESOLVED that the Board recommend to Cabinet that that the recommendation for Bournemouth (K) not be forwarded to Council.		Rejected	Cabinet felt that it was important to consult on all areas including (k) Bournemouth Town and therefore supported the recommendations as set out by the task and finish group and did not support recommendation 3 as submitted by the Overview and Scrutiny Board.

		RESOLVED that the Board recommend to Cabinet that the draft recommendations of the Task and Finish Group relating to Southbourne (I) be recommended to Council, for approval for publication and consultation, without amendment.		Accepted	
		RESOLVED that the O&S Board recommend to Cabinet that the draft recommendations of the Task and Finish Group relating to Boscombe and Pokesdown (H) be recommended to Council, for approval for publication and consultation, without amendment.		Accepted	
		RESOVLED that the O&S Board recommend to Cabinet that the draft recommendations of the Task and Finish Group relating to Throop and Holdenhurst (E) be recommended to Council, for approval for publication and consultation, without amendment.		Accepted	
		RESOLVED that the O&S Board recommend to Cabinet that the draft recommendations of the Task and Finish Group relating to Redhill and Northbourne (G) be recommended to Council, for approval for publication and consultation, without amendment		Accepted	

116.	Bournemouth Development Company LLP Business Plan	RESOLVED that the O&S Board recommend to Cabinet that a decision to extend the Winter Gardens site 'Option Execution Date' is deferred by Cabinet until the new BDC Partnerships Business Plan has been approved by Cabinet.	Cabinet – 5 March 2025	Rejected	The Cabinet did amend a recommendation as follows: Agrees the principle of an extension of the Winter Gardens site "Option Execution Date", with details to be agreed to be delegated to the Chief Operations Officer acting in consultation with the Leader of the Council, or until Cabinet have had the opportunity to review a revised partnership business plan including the site development plan for the revised Winter Gardens scheme." It was not able to agree a deferment of this decision as this would stop progress on the Winter Gardens development.
117.	Strategic Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)	RESOLVED That the Board recommended to Cabinet: 1. That the spending priorities for Strategic CIL as set out in Option 2 of the paper over the period 2024/25 to 2029/30 be agreed provided CIL income is as forecast; and 2. That the report be updated annually for Cabinet and Council.	Cabinet – 5 March 2025	Accepted	Accepted by Cabinet and spending priorities agreed for 2024/25 to 2029/30 for CIL.
Recommendations from Board meeting – 12 May 2025					
11.	Blue Badge Update	The Chair requested that the matter also be raised with the Local Government Association particularly regarding the cost of administering the Blue Badge scheme and the limitations of the current data system	Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Customer, Communication and Culture	Unknown	Update on this issue awaited – no deadline date

12.	Arts and Culture Funding	<p>Recommended to Cabinet:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the O&S Board recognise the value of the NPOs funded by BCP to Health and well-being youth and the local economy and urge Cabinet to protect the funding BCP currently provides. 2. That Cabinet endorse the work that's been done with schools by the NPOs and recommends that Cabinet take action to encourage all schools to take part. 3. To explore whether it would be a benefit for a Councillor to be appointed as a member of the Board on any or all of the NPO organisations, and 4. That it ensures that the arts by sea festival goes ahead next year. 	Cabinet – 13 May 2025	Accepted	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1: The cultural funding remains in the MTFP so there is no change in that position as of the moment. 2: The Portfolio Holder is working with the Cultural Hub to encourage this. 3: The Portfolio Holder has spoken to the NPO and they respectfully suggested that this would not be helpful. The Portfolio Holder agreed with this especially as they would likely be a PH and the Portfolio Holder already had very close links with all of them. 4: We are planning for ABTS next year and awaiting funding news from ACE.
Recommendations from Board meeting – 9 June 2025					
22.	Bournemouth Air Festival	The Overview and Scrutiny Board agreed with the recommendation that Cabinet agrees to Option 4 as set out in the report, which acknowledges the ongoing process for new events to come forward and stops any further work on an Air Festival for 2026 onwards.	Cabinet – 18 June 2025	Accepted	Recommendation accepted and confirmed that further work on the Air Festival for 2026 had been discontinued.
23.	Bournemouth Development Company - Winter Gardens Project	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Overview and Scrutiny Board supported the following recommendations to Cabinet: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (c) Cabinet approves the BDC Partnership Business Plan for 2025 – 2030. (c) Cabinet confirms the extension of the Site Option Execution Date to September 2028, allowing Muse as the Private Sector Partner in the BDC to fund the first stage of work on the new Winter Gardens scheme, resulting in a new Site Development Plan. (c) Cabinet approves proceeding on the understanding that public parking will not be included in a new scheme design. 2. The Overview and Scrutiny Board welcomed the development of the Town Centre Vision for Bournemouth and requested to scrutinise the regeneration visions for the 3 Towns in the BCP Area as these are redeveloped. 	Cabinet – 18 June 2025	Accepted	The development plans are due to come forward for consideration in December 2025 and it was proposed by the Leader that these would go to full Council.

		<p>3. The Overview and Scrutiny Board welcomed the development of the Town Centre Vision for Bournemouth and requested to scrutinise the regeneration visions for the 3 Towns in the BCP Area as these are redeveloped.</p>		<p>Accepted – update provided</p>	<p>We are developing the narrative across the three towns identifying key strengths and uniqueness to build upon the vision set out in the Corporate Strategy : vibrant places, where healthy people and nature flourish, with a thriving economy in a healthy natural environment. To support this we've made good progress by the establishment of a Citizen's Panel and the Growth Board. The Citizen's Panel comprises of residents with a focus on the town centre which is helping to provide insight into how residents feel and engage within the space. The Growth Board is a newly established steering group which is comprised of representatives from key sectors within the BCP conurbation including Business Improvement District, education, manufacturing, Starts up and the volunteering sector. These perspectives are helping to shape our vision for BCP as a place which can thrive, for residents to feel civic pride and a destination for visitors to enjoy. The conversation at the O&S focussed on how Winter Gardens fits into the wider context of the Town Centre and committee members asked for that to form part of any proposals from BDC. There is an existing Town Centre Vision which forms part of the Local Plan, and the intention is for BDC to review this to support a future planning application, ensuring it reflects the nature of the development proposals in the absence of a formal planning policy framework.</p>
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24.	Leisure Services Presentation and Discussion	The Overview and Scrutiny Board recommended that Cabinet be urged to put in place an "Access to Leisure" scheme across the whole BCP area as soon as possible, recognising that people in Poole have lost this facility and with particular emphasis on ensuring accessibility for people with disabilities	Cabinet – 18 June 2025	Accepted – update from Portfolio Holder Provided	The Portfolio holder has asked that officers explore options around a renewed access to leisure facility and bring forward options, including but not limited to; how that would be managed, financial implications, and meeting the recommendation as requested by the Overview and scrutiny board.
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Recommendations from Board meeting – [15 July 2025](#)

31.	Enhancement to Pay and Reward Offer	<p>The Overview and Scrutiny Board supported the following recommendations to Council within the Cabinet report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Agree the additional costs associated with enhancing the proposed Pay and Reward offer. b) Agree the additional savings proposals outlined in Appendix 1 to ensure the cost implications of the proposal remain consistent with the February 2025 endorsed Medium Term Financial Plan. c) Agrees the details of the enhanced offer shown in Appendix 4 and 5 that will form the basis of the signed collective agreement with our recognised trade unions. d) Approves the recommended implementation date of 1 December 2025. 	Cabinet – 16 July	Accepted	Agreed by Council on 22 July 2025. Work underway to achieve implementation for December 2025.
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32.	Scrutiny of Budget Related Cabinet reports – MTFP update report	<p>The Overview and Scrutiny Board endorsed the work of Members and Officers around SEND as set out in recommendation C of the report as follows:</p> <p>In respect of the SEND deficit, note the update and acknowledges the action taken by the Leader and the Director of Finance</p>	Cabinet - 16 July	Accepted	
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Recommendations from Board meeting - [22 September 2025](#)

39.	Residents Card	RESOLVED that the Overview and Scrutiny Board do not support the recommendation as outlined in the report as the Board did not feel that the Cabinet report included sufficient financial details and details of the scheme offers to enable it to make an informed decision. The Board recommend to Cabinet that the report is deferred to allow details of	Cabinet – 1 October	Rejected	Updates were made to the report and the recommendation prior to consideration by Cabinet.
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		the financial modelling that has been done to be added, including a cost/benefit analysis and a sensitivity analysis. Once this additional information is included in the report, it should then be brought back to the O&S Board before being taken to Cabinet for decision.			
Recommendations from Board meeting – 30 September 2025					
47.	Community Governance Review – Final Recommendations	All Recommendations as set out within the Cabinet report were supported by the Board: (a) the Task and Finish Group community governance review final recommendations, as set out in paragraphs 49, 62, 74, 92, 104, 117, 128, 140, 152, 166 and 181 of this report be approved; (b) the Head of Democratic Services be authorised to make all necessary reorganisation of community governance orders to implement the changes agreed by Council; (c) the Task and Finish Group continue to consider the transfer of civic and ceremonial assets, statutory services and precept requirements for year 1, for each new parish, on the basis of minimal transfer and precept, and a report be presented to full Council in due course.	Cabinet – 1 October	Accepted	The recommendations of Cabinet were referred to Council on 14 October. The Recommendations of Cabinet were agreed by full Council
Recommendations from Board meeting - 20 October 2025					
56.	Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) update	The Overview and Scrutiny Board recommend to Cabinet that as part of the Budget setting process. consideration be given to utilising receipts from the existing surplus asset disposal programme for 2026/27 to address some of the repairs and maintenance of publicly facing assets.	Cabinet – 29 October	Partially Accepted but final determination was to reject	The Portfolio Holder advised that this was considered as part of the budget setting process but due to the significant pressures on the delivery of statutory services it was not agreed to include this within the proposed budget – 9 February 2026
57.	BCP Council Libraries Draft Library Strategy	1. The Overview and Scrutiny Board recommend to Cabinet that as part of the Library Strategy it looks to maintain staffed hours in libraries, especially in the afternoon period, as open access is rolled out further in the future. 2. The Overview and Scrutiny Board recommend to Cabinet that the Library Service put together a list of smaller neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Bids to put to Councillors and Neighbourhood Forums immediately upon the opening of future CIL rounds.	Cabinet - 29 October	Accepted	The Portfolio Holder reported that the staff hours in Libraries would be maintained and that a list of potential CIL bids had been created and these were outlined to the Board – 9 February 2026

		3. That the O&S Board support the recommendations as set out in the Cabinet report.			
Recommendations from Board – 17 November 2025 – No recommendations made at this meeting					
Recommendations from Board – 8 December 2025					
79.	Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) Update	RESOLVED that the O&S Board advise Cabinet of its support for all recommendations as outlined in the Cabinet report.	Cabinet – 17 December	Accepted	Cabinet noted the support for the recommendations within the report.
Recommendations from Board – 5 January 2026					
87.	Regeneration Progress Report	That the Overview and Scrutiny Board recommend to Cabinet that, to enable effective lobbying of Government in the future, the draft of the BCP Growth Plan be shared with O&S Board Members when available and that Overview and Scrutiny be embedded in the plan's development and approval process.	Cabinet – 14 January	Accepted	Extract from Cabinet minutes: The Leader thanked Councillor Salmon and the Board for bringing their recommendation to Cabinet and advised that she was minded to accept the recommendation and that a formal response would be provided to the Board.
Recommendations from Board – 9 February 2026					
95.	Budget 2026/27 and Medium-Term Financial Plan	The Overview and Scrutiny Board recommend to Cabinet that the questions asked in the budget consultation be reviewed to ensure that they are relevant to the choices which need to be made in the 2027/28 budget setting.	Cabinet – 11 February	Unknown - TBC	

OUTSTANDING ACTIONS

Minute number	Item	Action* *Items remain until action completed.	Benefit	Updates
Actions from Board meeting – 12 May 2025				
10.	BCP Complaints Policy	RESOLVED that the Board further examine the role of councillors in the complaints process, particularly in relation to ward issues and casework.	To ensure the effectiveness of both the Councils complaints process and work of Ward Councillors	Work underway - Cllr S Aitkenhead as rapporteur
Actions from Board meeting – 22 September 2025				
38.	Commercial Operations	Portfolio Holder to provide an update on the current situation in 6 months-time with a view to scheduling further scrutiny when appropriate.	To monitor and receive updates on this area of the Council	Update due to the Board in March.
Actions from Board meeting – 20 October 2025				
57.	BCP Council Library – Draft Library Strategy	A potential item be included on the O&S work programme on a review of income generation opportunities within the library service, including commercialisation options and partnership models.	TBC	
Actions from Board meeting – 5 January 2026				
87.	Regeneration Progress Report	That a small group be convened including Cllrs J Beesley, P Canavan and K Salmon to scope draft Key Lines of Enquiry on a number of the issues raised for future scrutiny in preparation of the O&S Work Programming process.	To ensure that the issues raised are given due consideration and ensure that the work planning process can continue.	

ENVIRONMENT AND PLACE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

UPDATED: 14.01.26

Minute number	Item	Recommendation made *items remain for monitoring until implementation is complete or committee agree to remove.	Recommended to *name of receiving body/ Officer, and date received	Outcome *accepted/ partially accepted/ rejected/ unknown.	Implementation updates
Recommendations from Committee – 15 May 2024					
8	Improvement of the environment in Poole Park through a trial closure of a park entrance to motor traffic	Cabinet refer the matter to Full Council for decision.	Cabinet, 22 May 2024	Rejected	<p>Extract from Cabinet minutes:</p> <p>'Cabinet members questioned the benefit of taking the report to full council for further debate and felt that the decision should be made.'</p> <p>Decision made: RESOLVED that Cabinet: - (a) Agrees that the current trial closure, of the Whitecliff entrance and exit point to motor vehicles, is made permanent in Poole Park. (b) Agrees that current arrangements are retained, and motor vehicles can still access Poole Park and its facilities.'</p>
Recommendations from Committee – 11 September 2024					
15	Plant-based and reduced meat and dairy diets: discussion paper	RESOLVED that a. the Environment & Place Overview & Scrutiny Committee considered the information presented in the discussion paper and gave their views on possible approaches Cabinet may wish to take in relation to the promotion of plant-based and reduced meat and dairy diets. These proposals will then be subject to further evidence-gathering and consultation. b. To support the treaty and do more work outside the committee on the position statement. c. The draft position statement be brought back to the Committee for further consideration with information	Portfolio Holder and Officers	Accepted	A revised position statement with measurable objectives was returned to the committee for further scrutiny in October 2025.

		about how it can be measured against SMART objectives in order for the Council to be more ambitious and positive on this issue			
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Recommendations from Committee – 20 November 2024 – No recommendations made at this meeting.

Recommendations from Committee – [26 February 2025](#)

38	Climate Action Annual Report 2023/24	RESOLVED that a) The Committee propose to the Portfolio Holder that on the front page of the BCP Greenhouse Gas Emissions Dashboard an additional box is added to highlight the context of any carbon reduction relevant to the annual carbon reduction target b) Embedded carbon cost to be included in the calculation and displayed on the dashboard where available.	Portfolio Holder	Unknown - seek update	
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39	Housing Strategy Review	RESOLVED that the Overview & Scrutiny Committee recommend to Cabinet that that the Housing Strategy Steering Group be comprised of one member from each political group and one unaligned member.	Cabinet, 2 April 2025	Accepted	<p>Extract from Cabinet minutes:</p> <p>‘The Portfolio Holder thanked the Environment and Place Overview & Scrutiny Committee for their thorough debate at the Committee and expressed support for their recommendation.’</p> <p>Decision made: RESOLVED that Cabinet: - (a) Approved the Revised Housing Strategy Delivery Plan at appendix B; (b) Approved the extension of the current Housing Strategy Period to 2027; (c) Approved the governance structure as set out in paragraphs 7-11 of the report; and (d) Approved that the steering group being formed be made up of 1 member of each Political group and 1 unaligned member.</p>
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Recommendations from Committee – [2 April 2025](#)

49	Recommendations from the Safer	Recommendations to Cabinet	Cabinet date, 26 November 25	Unknown	1. The proposed Safe Accommodation Strategy delivery plan includes a number of actions around communication,
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	<p>Accommodati on Strategy Working Group</p>	<p>1. That as part of the Safe Accommodation Strategy development, officers consider an awareness campaign and/or guidance materials on the different types of financial support that are available to support those fleeing domestic abuse, in particular in relation to different types of housing tenure (e.g. shared tenancies, joint mortgages), in order to break down a significant barrier to survivors accessing support to end their abuse.</p> <p>2. That the engagement plan for the Safe Accommodation Strategy should ensure that the voices of those with lived experience are heard and reflected within the Strategy.</p> <p>3. That an all councillor briefing session be added to the Safe Accommodation Strategy engagement plan, to ensure members are adequately informed about the strategy and able to contribute views, and to enable them to fulfil their role within the community by communicating the benefits of the Safe Accommodation Strategy to residents.</p> <p>4. a) that the provision of safe accommodation and associated commissioning process be reviewed, b) that scrutiny members be invited to review and input into this review, prior to the commencement of commissioning, through an additional meeting of this working group.</p> <p>5. That the use of temporary accommodation be continuously reviewed and specific KPIs be established for monitoring the success of the new safe accommodation model, including occupancy rates, length of stay, outcomes for survivors (e.g., successful move-on to permanent housing), and survivor satisfaction. These KPIs should be reviewed regularly by the relevant scrutiny committee to ensure accountability and transparency.</p> <p>6. That Cabinet, with the support of the council's Corporate Management Board, be requested to take a</p>			<p>training and specialist advice that will ensure any household receives correct and clear information. Please see attached strategy delivery plan.</p> <p>2. Public consultation on the three domestic abuse strategies (Prevention of Domestic Abuse, Safe Accommodation and Perpetrator Strategies) has been completed, alongside several sessions on the Safe Accommodation Strategy with our established experts by experience group, including a dedicated session on the delivery plan. We will continue working with this group to monitor implementation, which includes actions to train and support experts by experience so they can actively participate in the commissioning and procurement of domestic abuse services.</p> <p>3. An all councillor briefing will be arranged in due course.</p> <p>4. The Safe Accommodation Strategy will be submitted with a commissioning plan for scrutiny and review.</p> <p>5. The proposed Safe Accommodation Strategy delivery plan sets out several actions that will contribute to this recommendation including the following:</p> <p>2.1.3 We will minimise the use of temporary accommodation and where this is provided, as a last resort, specialist Domestic Abuse support will</p>
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		view on forthcoming decisions that may be of significant or contentious public impact, regardless of decision-making thresholds, and an all councillor briefing be held before any such decisions are made, to enable all councillors, and particularly ward councillors, to be properly informed.			<p>be offered until the household can move into safe accommodation.</p> <p>5.1.1 Set up a task and finish group under the governance of the Domestic Abuse Strategy Group to agree future data monitoring across commissioned services, BCP Homes, BCP Council Housing, Adult Social Care and Children's Social Care.</p> <p>6. The Safe Accommodation Strategy will be submitted with a commissioning plan which will set out the procurement intentions for the next 3 years.</p>
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Recommendations from Committee – 14 May 2025 – No recommendations made at this meeting.

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Recommendations from Committee – [9 July 2025](#)

17	Local Area Energy Plan	<p>It is RECOMMENDED that:</p> <p>1) The recommendation as outlined in the report be approved by Cabinet.</p> <p>2) Cabinet add as an external stakeholder, the community to be represented in all stakeholder engagement, including any panels, meetings or focus groups.</p>	Cabinet	Partially accepted	<p>Cabinet approved the recommendations in the report and so accepted recommendation 1 from O&S.</p> <p>Cabinet were silent on recommendation 2 from O&S – seek an update.</p>
18	Email and Document Storage Retention – Impact Analysis on Costs and Environmental Factors & Recommendations	<p>It is RECOMMENDED to cabinet that:</p> <p>as per Option (B), the Committee supports the continuation of activity already underway, as part of the Councils Data and Innovation Programme, to re-assess and profile Microsoft 365 end-user licensing requirements, moving colleagues to lower-costs licenses where appropriate.</p>	Cabinet	Unknown	<p>Cabinet did not address this recommendation at the meeting</p> <p>The committee may wish to seek an update on this recommendation response, although the recommendation itself shows support for continued work within the council and so would require noting by Cabinet and not consideration.</p>

Recommendations from Committee – 8 October 2025

26	Plant-based and reduced meat and dairy diets: draft position statement and action plan	<p>RESOLVED that:</p> <p>a) All mentions of the word vegan be replaced with Plant-Based throughout the paper.</p> <p>b) Switching the target from 20% for plant-based concessions to 25%.</p> <p>c) That Council adopt the position statements and strategy for plant based diets in BCP Council with the amendments above.</p>	<p>Received by Cabinet, 29 October 2025.</p> <p>Then deferred by Cabinet for consideration at 26 November 2025 meeting</p>	Unknown	Awaiting response from Portfolio Holder
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Recommendations from Committee – 19 November 2025

34	Waste Strategy for Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council 2026-2036	<p>RESOLVED that the committee supported the recommendations as set out in the report to Cabinet including Option 1 regarding the removal of current separate kerbside battery collections but requested an additional point be included in respect of this option to read:</p> <p>(ii) and to develop a convenient battery recycling scheme with local businesses to create more easily accessible drop off points and in addition, requested the strategy at appendix 1 be amended to include the following: -</p> <p>(a) Paragraph 5.1 of Appendix 1 'A Waste Strategy for BCP Council 2026-2028' be amended to include <i>'and incineration'</i> so that the paragraph reads <i>'5.1 Tendering waste disposal contracts that embed the waste hierarchy and minimise the use of landfill and incineration'; and</i></p> <p>(b) Paragraph 5.3 of Appendix 1 'A Waste Strategy for BCP Council 2026-2028' be amended to include <i>'whilst also considering the carbon footprint of the type of disposal'</i> so that the paragraph reads <i>'5.3 Prioritising waste site proximity where possible, so waste travels only as far as it needs to and reduces the significant carbon impact of transporting waste whilst also considering the carbon footprint of the type of disposal'</i>.</p>	Cabinet 17 December 2025	Partially accepted	<p>Extract from Cabinet minutes:</p> <p>The Portfolio Holder thanked the Environment and Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee for their consideration of the report and their recommendations. In relation to this the Portfolio Holder advised that he felt the additional recommendation of (ii) was not necessary as people would be signposted to available organisations, and that this would include those who offered a postal collection of batteries which would assist those unable to access those in shops. In addition, the Portfolio Holder advised that any shops selling batteries were required to provide a collection of used batteries.</p> <p>Further to this the Portfolio Holder advised that the recommendations raised in relation to paragraph 5.1 and 5.3 would be included within the tendering priorities and that he was happy to accept both of those recommendations. The seconder advised that they were also content with these.</p>
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Recommendations from Committee – 25 February 2026

Recommendations from Committee – 20 May 2026					
Recommendations from Committee – 15 July 2026					
Recommendations from Committee – 9 September 2026					
Recommendations from Committee – 18 November 2026					
Recommendations from Committee – 24 February 2026					

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OUTSTANDING ACTIONS

Minute number	Item	Action* <small>*Items remain until action completed.</small>	Benefit	Updates
No current agreed actions				

CHILDREN'S SERVICES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

UPDATED: 14.01.26

Minute number	Item	Recommendation made <small>*items remain for monitoring until implementation is complete or committee agree to remove.</small>	Recommended to <small>*name of receiving body/ Officer, and date received</small>	Outcome <small>*accepted/ partially accepted/ rejected/ unknown.</small>	Implementation updates
Recommendations from Committee – 24 July 2024					
10	Child Exploitation Working Group Findings Report	<p>RESOLVED that the Committee RECOMMEND to Cabinet:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> That partnership working be promoted to ensure increased communication around the issues highlighted with parents, schools, children and youth services. That earlier age-appropriate education be implemented within schools across BCP regarding the risks associated with exploitation, drugs and the dangers of carrying weapons. 	Cabinet, 2 October 2024	Partially accepted	<p>Extract from 2.10.24 Cabinet minutes:</p> <p>'The Portfolio Holder for Children, Young People, Education and Skills spoke in support of the recommendations whilst highlighting with regards to recommendation 2 as set out above that BCP couldn't dictate the curriculum but can certainly look at ways to support it.</p> <p>The Leader advised that the Cabinet would take the matter away and go back to the Chair of the Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee.'</p> <p>Update given by Portfolio Holder to O&S Committee at 26.11.24 meeting. Extract minute:</p> <p>'The Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People provided a verbal update which included:</p> <p>An update on the outstanding Cabinet recommendation from previous meetings related to knife crime and drug/alcohol use in schools. The Education Improvement Service collaborated with police and community groups to gather data on school programs addressing these issues, but challenges remained in obtaining detailed information.</p>

					<p>OFSTED had recommended that schools incorporate local safeguarding issues, such as knife crime, into their curriculum. There are current resources available for Personal, Social, Health, and Economic education, with additional materials being sourced from providers attending conferences. The Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People highlighted that he also found free resources online through organisations like the DfE.</p> <p>In response to the Cabinet recommendations around earlier age-appropriate education. There was a need to assess existing educational initiatives related to this at both primary and secondary levels regarding knife crime awareness.</p> <p>Advised of upcoming events including webinars and community events focused on knife crime and related issues.'</p>
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37 **Recommendations from Committee – 19 September 2024** – No recommendations made at this meeting.

Recommendations from Committee – [26 November 2024](#)

36	Linwood Special School SEND Post 16 Provision at Ted Webster	<p>It was RESOLVED that Cabinet be recommended to approve (a) in the report: Cabinet approves the scheme to develop a satellite of Linwood School hosted at the former Ted Webster Children’s Centre providing a total of 60 Post 16 places including the associated capital investment necessary to develop the scheme as contained in Appendix 1 (Exempt). The scheme is fully funded from the council’s grant allocation of High Needs Provision Capital and will progress in line with the project programme set out at paragraph 12</p>	Cabinet, 10 December 2024	Accepted	Cabinet agreed to the recommendations in the report, as endorsed by O&S.
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Recommendations from Committee –28 January 2025 – No recommendations made at this meeting.

Recommendations from Committee – [11 March 2025](#)

69	SEND Improvement Update	It was Proposed, Seconded and RECOMMENDED to better assess the impact on children, young people and families of any potential budget overspend in the SEND service budget, the Committee recommends that Cabinet requests a report be provided to Cabinet by June 2025 which outlines: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the likely overspend in the budget which areas have been identified to overspend the options to ensure the budget limit is met an appraisal of the impact on children and families of these factors 	Cabinet, 2 April 2025	Accepted	Cabinet requested a report on 'SEND Budget Pressures' as recommended by the O&S committee. The report was considered by Cabinet at the 16 July 2025 meeting. Cabinet noted the report.
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Recommendations from Committee – [10 June 2025](#)

11	Youth Justice Service Plan 2025-26	RESOLVED that the Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee endorse the Youth Justice Plan so that Cabinet can recommend its approval to the Full Council.	Cabinet, 26 November 2025	Accepted	Youth Justice Plan approved by Cabinet for recommendation to Council. Youth Justice Plan approved by Council.
12	Housing for Care Experienced Young People	It was Proposed, Seconded and RECOMMENDED that the Committee seeks assurance that the new Joint Housing protocol has been successfully agreed and is working effectively to ensure our Care Experienced Young People are seeing an improved service and are in receipt of timely advice and safe housing that suits their individual needs and hopes for the future.	Officers	Unknown, but Officers were in support of the recommendation in the meeting.	Seek update

Recommendations from Committee – [15 September 2025](#) - No recommendations made at this meeting.

Recommendations from Committee – 25 November 2025

9	Permanent Exclusions and Suspensions	Comment to Cabinet: The committee agreed to make Cabinet aware that the Committee appreciates the detrimental impact of school exclusions, which were highlighted in the report, and recognises the work that is underway to address this. The committee agreed that through this work the council's primary focus is improved outcomes for the children of BCP but that this work will also likely bring budgetary savings such as:	Cabinet, 26 November 2025	Not applicable	The Cabinet thanked the committee for its work on this. Note: the constitution requires no response from Cabinet to comments from O&S.
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A reduction in exclusions and associated costs (e.g. transport, AP placements, tribunal processes) • Improved outcomes for vulnerable pupils, reducing future demand on social care, youth justice, and post-16 support service • A reduction in the need for unregistered and costly AP as more needs are met by schools 			
10	Home to School Transport	<p>The Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed to endorse the recommendation within the report to Cabinet, this being that Cabinet:</p> <p>'Agree to tender an external provider to deliver a transformation project over three years with a total cost of £1.5 million funded by the flexible use of capital receipts to deliver service improvements and by the end of the project on-going savings in SEND school transport projected at £3 million (net of additional resource requirement)'</p>	Cabinet, 26 November 2025.	Accepted	<p>Report recommendations agreed by Cabinet for recommendation to Council.</p> <p>Report recommendations agreed by Council.</p>

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Recommendations from Committee – 27 January 2026					
Recommendations from Committee – 10 March 2026					
Recommendations from Committee – 26 March 2026					
Recommendations from Committee – 16 June 2026					
Recommendations from Committee – 14 September 2026					

Recommendations from Committee – 24 November 2026					
Recommendations from Committee – 26 January 2027					
Recommendations from Committee – 9 March 2027					

OUTSTANDING ACTIONS

Minute number	Item	Action* *Items remain until action completed.	Benefit	Updates
28 January 2025				
49	<p>Children in Care and Care Experienced Young People Sufficiency Report</p> <p>Children in Care and Care Experienced Young People Sufficiency Report.pdf</p>	<p>Decision Made: The officers agreed to share the final governance and quality assurance framework with the Committee once agreed and signed off as final.</p> <p>Action – Officers aware</p> <p>The Committee agreed to continue discussions outside the meeting regarding the best ways to address the barriers identified in the report and to reach an agreement on how the Committee will receive that information.</p> <p>Action – Officers aware</p>		To be discussed with CS and Chair in catch up meeting
11 March 2025				
67	<p>Children and Young People's Partnership Plan 2025-2030</p> <p>Children and Young Peoples Partnership Plan 2025-2030.pdf</p> <p>Partnership Plan 2025-2030.pdf</p>	<p>Decision Made: It was agreed that the KPIs for this would be shared with the Committee.</p> <p>Action – Officers aware</p>		<p>CS Nov Update KPIs still to be signed off by the partnership. Will be shared once agreed.</p>
69	<p>SEND Improvement Update</p> <p>SEND Improvement Update.pdf</p>	<p>Decision made: The officers agreed to share the full review of the DSG finances as well as the SEND improvement board's response to the review.</p> <p>Action – Officers aware</p> <p>The Committee requested an update on the ongoing work regarding education outside of school and home</p>		

Minute number	Item	Action* *Items remain until action completed.	Benefit	Updates
		education and asked that it be shared with the Committee. Action – Officers aware		
15 September 2025				
25	<u>Alternative Provision Improvement Plan</u> Alternative Provision Improvement Plan Final.pdf	Decision Made: The Committee discussed the routes into AP, including exclusions and EHCPs, and officers agreed to provide further data on this breakdown. Action – Officers aware		<u>CS Nov Update</u> New SEND & AP Plan in place.

HEALTH & ADULT SOCIAL CARE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

UPDATED: 14.01.26

Minute number	Item	Recommendation made *items remain for monitoring until implementation is complete or committee agree to remove.	Recommended to *name of receiving body/ Officer, and date received	Outcome *accepted/ partially accepted/ rejected/ unknown.	Implementation updates
Recommendations from Committee meeting – 20 May 2024					
11	Data Working Group Final Report	<p>The Committee recommend to the O&S Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> that a similar [data] toolkit be developed for all O&S committees to reflect the relevant data and policy landscape within the remit of these committees. This to be added to the O&S Action Plan. that the Data Use Toolkit be highlighted within the O&S annual report to Council. 	Overview and Scrutiny Board (16 July 2024).	Recommendations accepted.	<p>Toolkit development for all O&S committees has been added to the O&S Action Plan.</p> <p>Toolkit for the Children’s O&S Committee is near completion. All others are yet to start and will be developed when resources allow.</p> <p>The Data Use Toolkit was highlighted within the 2023/24 O&S annual report to Council. (Update by O&S Specialist, 24/4/25)</p>
Recommendations from Committee meeting – 15 July 2024					
21	Adult Social Care Business Transformation Case	<p>The Committee recommend that Cabinet recommends that Council:</p> <p>a) Approves the business case for a new adult social care transformation delivery model to improve outcomes for residents and to achieve financial efficiencies and savings enabled by investment.</p> <p>b) Agrees to the establishment of a formal transformation programme; ‘Fulfilled Lives’.</p> <p>c) Agrees to the proposed investment of £2.9M, with Corporate Management Board being provided 6-monthly stage reviews on</p>	Cabinet (17 July 24) and Council (23 July 24)	Recommendations partially accepted at both Cabinet and Council	<p>The final decision of Council was different from the committee recommendation as follows:</p> <p>Resolved that Council:</p> <p>(a) Approves in principle the business case for a new adult social care transformation delivery model to improve outcomes for residents and to achieve financial efficiencies and savings enabled by investment of up to 2.9M;</p> <p>(b) Agrees to the establishment of a formal transformation programme; ‘Fulfilled Lives’;</p> <p>(c) Agrees to an initial 12-month investment of 1.79M, with an interim report to Cabinet on progress of the design phase in January</p>

		<p>the progress of the transformation programme.</p> <p>d) Invites the Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee to provide regular scrutiny of progress towards benefits and sustainable change. In particular, the Committee be invited to review the progress against the four priority areas of the Fulfilled Lives programme and the risks and opportunities of data with ASC transformation</p>			<p>2025 and a full report by July 2025, with recommendations for further investment; and</p> <p>(d) Invites the Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee to provide regular scrutiny of progress towards benefits and sustainable change. In particular the Committee be invited to review the progress against the four priority areas of the Fulfilled Lives programme and the risks and opportunities of data with ASC transformation.</p> <p>Implementation update required on a)-c) above.</p> <p>Implementation update on d) above:</p> <p>The Health & ASC O&S Committee now receives regular reports on the Fulfilled Lives programme to provide opportunity for ongoing scrutiny of the transformation delivery. (Update by O&S Specialist, 24/4/25)</p>
<p>Recommendations from Committee meeting – 24 September 2024 – No recommendations made at this meeting.</p>					
<p>Recommendations from Committee meeting – 2 December 2024</p>					
46	Health and Social Care for the Homeless	<p>The Committee recommend that Cabinet:</p> <p>Discuss the issues caused by a lack of funding for rough sleepers with no local connection and those without an identified priority need with a view to developing solutions in partnership with other local authorities and key stakeholders such as the Integrated Care Board and relevant ministers to create a robust system that does not fail our most vulnerable or unfairly place the responsibility for caring for these people on local particular local authorities, with a view to getting something in place before the new strategy.</p>	Cabinet (10 December 2024)	<p>Acceptance unknown – recommendation received by Cabinet with advice that it would be considered at a future meeting of the Cabinet.</p>	<p>Response sent by email from Cllr Kieron Wilson on behalf of Cabinet:</p> <p><i>I would like to thank the Health and Adult Social Care O&S Panel for their interest in this most critical of issues.</i></p> <p><i>BCP Council has an extensive programme of support and accommodation pathways which address all forms of homelessness – and we are considered best practice nationally. There is innovation, creativity, strong engagement with lived experience and a trauma informed approach throughout our local provision. Reflecting this</i></p>

				<p><i>performance and reputation, our Head of Strategic Housing and Partnerships recently gave evidence at an MHCLG Inquiry into Rough Sleeping, outlining the challenges which remain despite our successes. In addition, we have been invited to submit additional evidence to support the work of the Inquiry and I will be submitting this in the coming days.</i></p> <p><i>The opportunity to directly engage with the government on the challenge of Rough Sleeping places us in a positive position in taking account of the recommendation from Health and Adult Social Care. In addition, I would add that the Housing Strategy and Homelessness Strategy midpoint reviews are due to complete and report back to Cabinet in the next year and I will ensure that the recommendation is considered as part of this work and addressed within the resulting report.</i></p>
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47	Transforming Urgent and Emergency Care Services	<p>The Committee recommend that Cabinet recommends to Council:</p> <p>a) Notes the summary of the diagnostic review, including improved outcomes for residents and financial benefits for the Council.</p> <p>b) Notes that under the draft Partnership Agreement with Dorset health and care partners, anticipated benefits are significantly in excess of costs to the Council.</p> <p>c) Delegates to the Corporate Director for Wellbeing, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Health and Wellbeing, the Director of Law and Governance and the Director of Finance, authority to enter into the Partnership Agreement to undertake the proposed transformation programme.</p>	Cabinet (10 December 2024) and Council (10 December 2024)	Recommendations accepted at both Cabinet and Council	
Recommendations from Committee meeting – 3 March 2025					
61	Adult Social Care Strategy 2025-28	<p>The Committee recommend to Cabinet:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the inclusion of some clear targets ideally linked to the Adult Social Care Outcomes Framework (ASCOF) within the Adult Social Care Strategy; and the inclusion of an overview of how to better integrate performance and activity data with finance data in the Adult Social Care Strategy. 	Cabinet (2 April 2025)	Response unknown – recommendations ‘welcomed’ by Cabinet but no clear response given.	<p>The final decision of Cabinet did not reflect the recommendations made by the committee, and was as follows:</p> <p>‘Resolved that the new ASC Strategy 2025-28 is linked to the Corporate Vision and supports corporate priorities under ‘Our People and Communities.’</p> <p>Update required. Committee may wish to seek a response from relevant Portfolio Holder back into committee.</p>
Recommendations from Committee meeting – 19 May 2025 No recommendations made at this meeting.					
Recommendations from Committee meeting – 14 July 2025					

20	Adult Social Care Fulfilled Lives Transformation Programme	The HASC O&S Committee: 1. Supports the recommendation to Cabinet that Council approves the request for the release of the remaining £1.11m funding that was previously agreed to allow the Fulfilled Lives Programme to reach completion and realisation of the benefits; and 2. Continues to monitor this four-year programme in particular around self-directed support and support at home that will enable people to stay independent.	Cabinet 26 July 2025	Accepted	Cabinet and Council approved the release of the remaining £1.1m as outlined at part 1 of the recommendation.
Recommendations from Committee meeting – 23 September 2025					
30	Get Dorset & BCP Working Plan - GD&BCPWP	The Committee RECOMMENDS that: 1) The recommendations as outlined in the report be approved by Cabinet. 2) That Cabinet agree for the Get Dorset & BCP Working Plan to return to an Overview and Scrutiny Committee at an appropriate stage for further scrutiny, to enable Members to review its delivery, assess its impact in supporting individuals to return to work, and consider whether intended outcomes are being achieved.	Cabinet 1 October 2025	Accepted	Report recommendations agreed by Council.
Recommendations from Committee meeting – 1 December 2025					
44	FutureCare Programme – Mid Programme Review	RESOLVED that the Committee requests the programme return to its next meeting on 2 March 2026 with detailed financial and impact data to scrutinise.	Officers	Accepted	Coming back to Committee on 2 March with further information requested.
Recommendations from Committee meeting – 2 March 2026					

Recommendations from Committee meeting – 19 May 2026

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Recommendations from Committee meeting – 20 July 2026

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Recommendations from Committee meeting – 22 September 2026

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Recommendations from Committee meeting – 30 November 2026

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Recommendations from Committee meeting – 1 March 2027

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OUTSTANDING ACTIONS

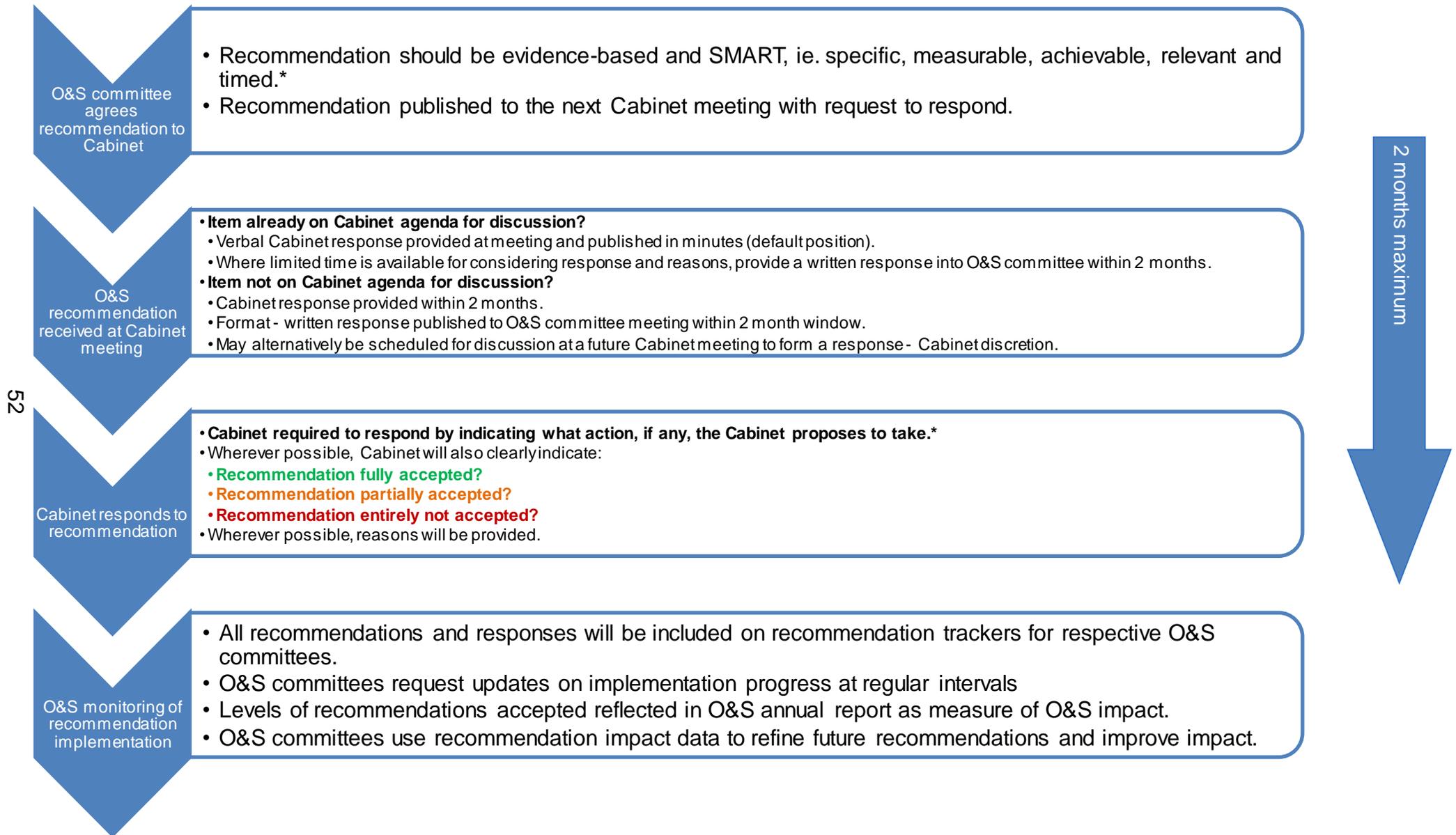
Minute number	Item	Action* *Items remain until action completed.	Benefit	Updates
Actions arising from Committee meeting – 25 September 2023				
20	National Suicide Prevention Strategy	Decision Made: The Board was advised that Public Health was unsure of the amount which would be allocated to the BCP area, as the closing dates for bids had not yet happened, however bids were being worked on and once any funding was known, the Committee could be informed. Action – Public Health aware		
Actions arising from Committee meeting – 15 July 24				
	Adult Social Care Transformation Business Case	Decision Made: That key risks and Key Performance Indicators be included in future reports regarding the Transformation Programme Action – Officers aware	To enable the Committee to have this information when scrutinising	
Actions arising from Committee meeting – 24 September 24				
34.	Adult Social Care Budget Presentation	Decision made: In response to a query regarding the activities and outcomes of the Live Well Dorset programme, the Committee was advised that it had managed to reach those living in the most deprived areas of BCP and that access could potentially be provided to the dashboard for the Committee to see the output. Action: to be considered further		
Actions arising from Committee meeting – 3 March 25				

Minute number	Item	Action* *Items remain until action completed.	Benefit	Updates
59.	The Transformation of UHD Hospitals	Decision Made: That the Director of Adult Social Care be the contact for any Cllrs wishing to visit the new facilities ACTION – Director and Cllrs aware.		
64.	Work Plan	Decision Made: As requested by the Overview and Scrutiny Board, the Committee will monitor the proposed increase of block booked beds for long-term care and that an update on progress against this be provided at an appropriate time. ACTION – added to the work plan with no date yet identified.		An update requested under budget presentation in September 2025
Actions arising from Committee meeting – 19 May 25				
11	FutureCare Programme Update	Decision Made: That the Committee receive data regarding bed capacity and workforce numbers at an appropriate time. Action – Officers aware Decision Made: That the Committee receive data around benefits tracking and monitoring to be reported to a meeting at a future date. Action – Officers aware and added to the work plan Decision Made: That the Committee receive further information regarding capacity within secondary care to fulfil the future need. Action – Officers aware		
Actions arising from Committee meeting – 14 July 25				
20.	Adult Social Care Fulfilled Lives Transformation Programme	Decision Made: That the Committee receive quantitative data about the impact in future reports.		

Minute number	Item	Action* *Items remain until action completed.	Benefit	Updates
		Action – Officers aware		
Actions arising from Committee meeting – 23 September 25				
31.	Tricuro: Business Plan Review and Objectives 2025-26	<p>Decision Made: The Committee requested data on service capacity, particularly at the Moordown centre. Officers confirmed that capacity data is available via dashboards and would be circulated to the Committee.</p> <p>Action – Officers aware</p> <p>Decision made: The Committee was advised of the officer's commitment to ongoing engagement and agreed that progress updates should be provided between formal planning cycles to support continued collaboration and oversight</p> <p>Action – Officers aware</p>		
Actions arising from Committee meeting – 1 December 2025				
44.	FutureCare Programme – Mid Programme Review	<p>Decision Made: The importance of tracking savings through to tangible outcomes, such as reduced home care hours and improved reablement was highlighted, and the Chair requested detailed data analysis at a future meeting.</p> <p>Action – added to work plan for 2 March 2026</p>	To enable the Committee to fully scrutinise the impact of the programme in terms of tangible outcomes and savings	Coming back to Committee on 2 March 2026.
45.	Integrated Neighbourhood Teams (INTs) Update	<p>Decision Made: The Committee requested the programme Diis dashboard be shared with them to consider further.</p> <p>Action – Officers aware.</p>		

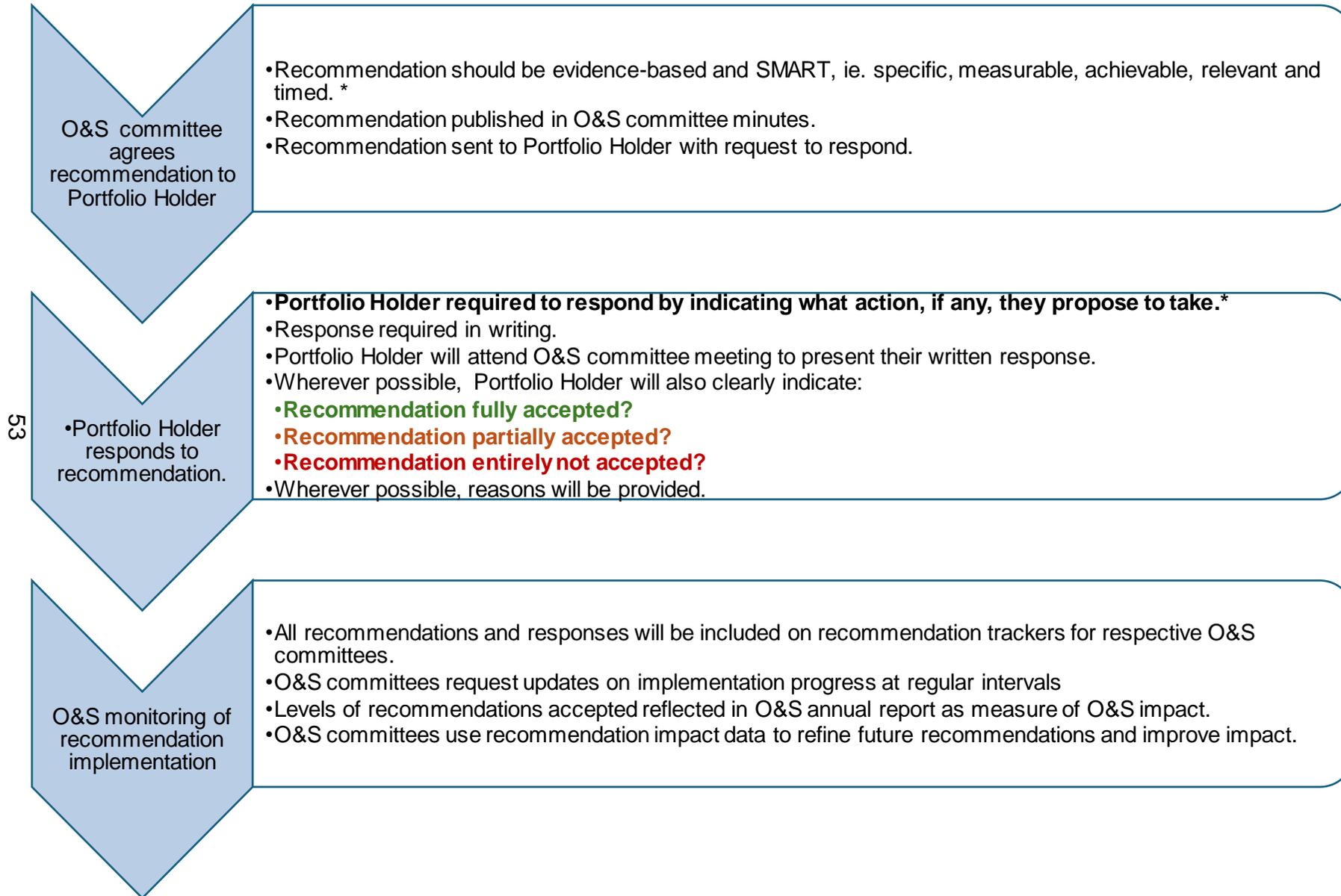
O&S Recommendations / Executive response process

Cabinet process:



* [Overview and scrutiny: statutory guidance for councils, combined authorities and combined county authorities - GOV.UK](#)

Portfolio Holder process



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ENVIRONMENT AND PLACE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE



Report subject	Recommendations from Portfolio Holders, Cabinet or Council
Meeting date	25 February 2026
Status	Public Report
Executive summary	<p>The Council's constitution provides that Overview and Scrutiny (O&S) Committees may consider requests for work from a range of sources, including requests from Portfolio Holders, Cabinet and Council.</p> <p>The O&S Committee is asked to consider a request for scrutiny recently made by Council, and to determine the request in line with the associated constitution procedure rules.</p>
Recommendations	It is RECOMMENDED that the O&S committee considers and approves or rejects the request for scrutiny as set out in this report.
Reason for recommendations	To comply with the decision of Council and the requirements of the council's constitution.
Portfolio Holder(s):	Not applicable for this decision
Corporate Director	Aiden Dunn
Report Authors	Lindsay Marshall, Overview and Scrutiny Specialist
Wards	Council-wide
Classification	For Decision

Process for consideration of scrutiny requests

1. This report relates to requests for scrutiny made to the O&S committee by a Portfolio Holder, Cabinet or Council. The process for determining requests to O&S Committees from these bodies is set out by the council's constitution procedure rules as follows:

- *Where Portfolio Holders, the Cabinet or Council request that O&S Committees undertake a specified piece of work, the relevant O&S Committee shall respond to the request as soon as it is possible to do so.*
 - *The Committee will assess the value to be added by the work suggested when determining whether to exercise its powers in this respect. Where it chooses to exercise its powers in relation to the request, it will report back its findings and any recommendations to Cabinet and/or Full Council.*
 - *Where the Committee chooses not to exercise its powers in relation to the request, it will provide reasons for this to the body that made the original request.*
2. In addition, the constitution requires that *no item of work shall join the work plan of any O&S Committee without an assessment of:*
 - *detail outlining the background to the issue suggested;*
 - *the proposed method of undertaking the work;*
 - *likely timescale associated with undertaking the work; and*
 - *the anticipated outcome and value to be added by the work proposed.'*
 3. The O&S Committee should follow these processes when determining requests for scrutiny.

Requests for consideration

Live Traffic, Flooding and Infrastructure Resilience for BCP

4. **Background** - At its 10 February 2026 meeting, the Council was presented with a motion from Cllr Cooper around flooding and resilience and referred it to the Environment & Place O&S Committee for consideration.
5. **Scrutiny process and timescale** - this was not set out by Council, although debate at Council included the suggestion that the O&S Committee could investigate this matter by looking at this motion in depth alongside looking at the whole picture of flooding and resilience alongside partners and report back to Cabinet and Council. This matter may therefore be well suited to a working group or series of commissioned evidence sessions to inform the work.
6. **Anticipated outcome and value to be added by the work proposed** - this was not clearly stated by Council and requires further consideration by the Committee.
7. The full decision of Council is set out at Appendix 1.

Options Appraisal

8. The O&S Committee may choose to agree or reject the requests made. This decision should be made in line with the requirements of the constitution as set out above, particularly in relation to the anticipated value and outcome of proposed work and the resources available to undertake work.
9. If requests are agreed, the committee should determine methods and timescales for scrutiny, taking account of other priorities already established within the committee work programme. This may be delegated to the Chair of the Committee to consider with officers and report back.
10. If requests are rejected, the Committee should provide reasons for this to the body making the request.

Summary of financial implications

11. There are no financial implications associated with this decision to determine scrutiny requests.

Summary of legal implications

12. There are no legal implications associated with this decision to determine scrutiny requests.

Summary of human resources implications

13. There are no human resources implications associated with this decision to determine scrutiny requests

Summary of sustainability impact

14. There are no sustainability impacts associated with this decision to determine scrutiny requests.

Summary of public health implications

15. There are no public health implications associated with this decision to determine scrutiny requests.

Summary of equality implications

16. There are no equality implications associated with this decision to determine scrutiny requests.

Summary of risk assessment

17. There are no risks associated with this decision to determine scrutiny requests.

Background papers

Current Environment & Place O&S Committee work programme

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Extract Minute, Council 10 February 2026.

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RESOLVED: That Council refers to the Environment and Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee to investigate the following requests:

1. Ask Cabinet to set out the reasons why BCP Council does not currently provide a live, real-time traffic and road status service comparable to Dorset Council's, including an assessment of costs, funding priorities and whether financial considerations alone justify the absence of such a service.
2. Request that officers urgently explore the development of a publicly accessible, real-time system covering traffic disruption, flooding, road closures and emergency conditions across BCP.
3. Call for a long-term, resilient approach that brings together all relevant agencies, stakeholders and partners including highways, emergency services, water and sewerage providers, planning authorities and neighbouring councils to address information sharing, sewer backflow, drainage capacity and infrastructure resilience during extreme weather.
4. Require that sewer network capacity, flood risk and surface water management are explicitly and robustly addressed within planning policy and development decisions.
5. Request a report back to Full Council setting out options, costs, responsibilities and timescales for delivery.

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CABINET BRIEFING



Report subject	Climate Action Annual Report
Meeting date	4 March 2026
Status	Public Report
Executive summary	<p>This report presents the sixth annual update to Cabinet on progress towards commitments made in the BCP Council Climate and Ecological Emergency Declaration, made on the 16 of July 2019.</p> <p>In the 2024-2025 year, progress against the main commitments is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make BCP Council and its operations carbon neutral by 2030 - scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions reduced by 20.9% from the 2019 baseline • Work with the wider community to make the region carbon neutral before 2045 – according to data released in 2025, total area-wide emissions for 2024 had reduced by 17.7% from the 2019 baseline. <p>Overall, both the Council and the wider BCP area have made progress since 2019, supported by clearer roadmaps, better data, strengthened governance and growing collaboration across sectors.</p> <p>Continued acceleration, investment and partnership working will be essential to stay on track for the 2030 and 2045 targets.</p>
Recommendations	<p>It is RECOMMENDED that:</p> <p>a) Cabinet notes the Climate Progress Report 2024-25</p>
Reason for recommendations	<p>This report informs on progress made to date and proposes a draft Roadmap of climate actions that the Council can consider in order to deliver on the ambitions of a carbon neutral Council by 2030. These are clear and achievable but require resources and timely decision-making if significant emissions reductions are to be made.</p>

Portfolio Holder(s):	Councillor Andy Hadley, Portfolio Holder for Climate Response, Environment and Energy
Corporate Director	Aidan Dunn, Chief Executive
Report Authors	Isla Reynolds, Director of Marketing, Communications and Policy Gail Scholes, Chief Sustainability Officer Becky Beaumont, Sustainability Officer
Wards	Council-wide
Classification	For Recommendation

Background

1. On 16 July 2019, BCP Council declared a Climate and Ecological Emergency and committed to becoming carbon neutral across Council operations by 2030 and to work with partners to set a target date for when the Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole region can be made carbon neutral, ahead of the UK target of 2050. An annual report is required to update on progress towards achieving these targets. This

Progress Report 2024-25 Summary

BCP Council emission reduction

2. Since declaring a Climate and Ecological Emergency in 2019, BCP Council has made measurable progress in cutting carbon emissions from its own operations and across the wider Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole area. The 2024–25 Annual Report shows clear, sustained reductions in emissions and a strengthening of the governance, planning and evidence base required to reach the Council’s 2030 carbon neutral target and the area-wide 2045 ambition.
3. Since the 2019 baseline year, total Council emissions have reduced by **20.9%**, up from 8.7% in 2023/24, reflecting progress across buildings, transport, streetlighting and the goods and services the Council procures.
4. By 2024/25, organisational emissions had fallen from 49,389 tCO₂e in 2019/20 to 39,070 tCO₂e. The strongest reductions have come from:
 - Gas use in buildings, supported by energy-efficiency improvements.
 - Adjustments in service operations leading to lower fuel consumption in some areas.
5. At the same time, electricity use increased due to the growth of EV charging, heat pumps and new traffic signal infrastructure—necessary changes that support long-term emissions decline as the national grid continues to decarbonise.
6. Scope 3 emissions remain the largest share of the Council’s footprint, with leased-out buildings (mainly housing) making up 61% of all emissions. Retrofit

programmes continue to improve energy performance in Council-owned homes, but tenant behaviour and energy supply choices limit the Council's direct influence.

7. To support faster progress, the Council has introduced:
 - New Roadmaps with interim milestones for 2027 and 2029.
 - A dedicated £1 million climate and ecological reserve.
 - A Carbon Neutral Steering Group to coordinate delivery.
 - Improved emissions dashboards and stronger energy management practices.

Area-wide emissions reduction

8. The Council is committed to supporting a carbon-neutral BCP area before 2045. The latest government data (published 2023) shows that area-wide emissions have **reduced by 17.7%** since 2019, compared to last year's reduction of 12% since 2019, demonstrating steady but insufficient progress without further acceleration.
9. The biggest reductions have come from homes, where emissions from gas and electricity use have fallen by 13.7%. Key drivers include:
 - Higher energy-efficiency standards supported by national/local schemes.
 - Rapid decarbonisation of the electricity grid.
 - Increasing adoption of low-carbon heating (e.g., heat pumps).
 - Behaviour change due to climate awareness and higher energy prices.
10. Transport emissions, previously rising, have now stabilised, helped by investment through the Transforming Cities Fund, improvements to walking and cycling networks, and growth in the use of Beryl bikes and e-scooters.
11. The Council has strengthened area-wide planning through the Local Area Energy Plan (LAEP), published in 2025, which sets out 15 major actions required to reach the 2045 target. These actions require joint delivery by partners across the public, private and community sectors.

Building momentum

12. Across both the Council and the wider area, 2024/25 saw the introduction of key tools and enablers for accelerating progress:
 - Climate Vulnerability Tool to support risk-informed decisions.
 - A new solar framework and identification of 25 priority sites.
 - Commissioning of a heat network and geothermal study.
 - Expansion of Carbon Literacy training across officers, councillors and local businesses.
 - The launch of the Local Area Energy Plan
 - More transparent publishing of emissions data.
13. Latest data shows a 12% reduction since 2019, improving on the previous year's 8.3% reduction.

14. As before, whilst the trend is in the right direction, the pace needs to be accelerated if the Council and wider area are going to meet their ambitions.
15. The main gains area-wide have been a 13.7% drop in emissions from gas and electricity use in homes. This is due to a range of interventions and pressures including improving energy efficiency (helped by national and local grant schemes, such as the Home Upgrade Grant and Healthy Homes Dorset), 240

Options Appraisal

16. Option 1: Cabinet notes the Climate Progress Report.
17. Option 2: Cabinet rejects the Climate Progress Report which will impact the momentum of the Climate Programme and risk the Council not meeting its 2030 carbon neutral target.

Summary of financial implications

18. There will be financial implications to the individual proposals contained within this report and appendix. These will be identified as projects are developed and considered on a case-by-case basis in the decision-making process. Early engagement with the Council's Financial Services will be sought. The Council's 2025/26 Budget Report states: 'The budget continues to protect the staffing resources associated with climate change and ecological emergency activity. In addition, as at the 31 March 2025 £962,000 was available in an earmarked reserve to support project activity.'
19. An Environment & Place Overview & Scrutiny Budget Working Group in the Autumn of 2024 set out that based on current understanding that £64m may be required to meet the council's net zero targets by 2030 although a proportion of this would be delivered through strategic partnerships and securing external funding. The ongoing challenge to the council will be bridging the gap between the resources needed and the £1.239m available in the earmarked reserve.
20. In addition to the environmental and social impacts of climate change, there is also a risk to BCP Council of significant financial consequences if it fails to meet its declared climate targets. Council has pledged to become carbon neutral by 2030 as an organisation and lead the area to become net zero carbon ahead of the 2045 UK100 target. Based on forecasts from the London School of Economics the council would have to incur costs of over £3m per annum to purchase the necessary offsetting carbon credits to meet the carbon neutral pledge in 2030. Clearly this cost will act as an incentive to the council to prioritise the activity and investment necessary to meet this priority.'
21. It is worth noting that BCP Council's Local Area Energy Plan, when analysing the cost of a 'do nothing' approach compared to a balanced approach to carbon emission reductions, forecast that doing nothing would cost £5.3bn compared to £5.8bn of reasonable efforts to reduce emissions. This illustrates that not taking action to proactively reduce energy use or generate energy sustainably also incurs cost.

Summary of legal implications

22. Legal implications in delivery of any projects referenced within this report or appendix will be considered on a case-by-case basis and early engagement with the Council's Legal Team will be sought.

Summary of human resources implications

23. The human resources implications of any projects developed as a result of this report or appendix will be considered on a case-by-case basis when individual projects are assessed for approval.

Summary of sustainability impact

24. [The Council has signed up to the climate change emergency and as such it is critical that decision makers consider the sustainability impact of their decision. Overtyping this section with a summary of the sustainability impact of the decision being sought.]

Summary of public health implications

25. Climate change will result in increasing heatwaves, extreme weather events, floods, disease, and increased cancer risk. The measures proposed to reduce climate change will help to mitigate against these dangers and additional benefits from those actions can also have a direct positive health effect (e.g., increased fitness from walking or cycling and better air quality from reducing car journeys).

Summary of equality implications

26. An EIA conversation/screening document has been completed. It concludes that the Annual Report itself has no negative equality implications but potentially some positive outcomes, for example addressing health inequalities or protecting older people from extreme temperatures. Resulting actions may require individual assessments to be carried out before commencement.

Summary of risk assessment

27. We must further our and public knowledge of Climate Vulnerability and Risk of the possible effects of climate change on our area. Failing to achieve the Climate and Ecological Emergency declaration commitments will contribute to an increasingly hostile global and local environment. Not achieving targets will result in the Council failing to meet its commitments under the Climate and Ecological Emergency Declaration and therefore not helping global efforts to keep climate warming below 1.5°C to avoid further environmental damage, population displacement, biodiversity loss and risk to life.
28. 19. The Council could also face reputational damage from negative publicity (locally, nationally, and internationally). However, if we act in a timely manner, many of the actions to tackle climate change will contribute to social, economic, and environmental benefits, reducing the likelihood of actual and perceived risks. Risk assessments will be carried out for individual Climate Action projects as required, on a case-by-case basis.

Background papers

BCP Council Emissions Dashboards – these are publicly accessible here: BCP Emissions Dashboard and on the Council website at:

<https://www.bpcouncil.gov.uk/environment/sustainability-and-carbon-reduction/our-climate-actions-and-achievements-so-far>

[BCP Council Local Area Energy Plan](#)

Appendices

Appendix 1: Climate Action Annual Report 2023/24

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Climate action

annual report

2024-25



Foreword

This is my third Climate Action Annual Report as Portfolio Holder for Climate Response, Environment and Energy.

It comes at a time when the effects of climate change are more apparent than ever, right on our doorstep, impacting the lives of our residents. Heavy winter rainfall and summer heatwaves are becoming more likely and more extreme in the UK. This January, as last year, we've evacuated residents impacted by flooding caused by some of the highest levels of the River Stour we've seen. And last year we and our neighbours in Dorset worked repeatedly alongside emergency services to manage several significant heath fires. The science is clear and the changes are happening right here in Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole.

Elsewhere, extreme weather events are becoming more prevalent, driving instability through flooding, wildfires, and crop failures across the globe. The UK Government recently issued the '*Nature security assessment on global biodiversity loss, ecosystem collapse and national security*'¹, which explores how global biodiversity loss and the collapse of critical ecosystems could affect the UK's resilience, security and prosperity. This makes grim reading, but highlights the importance of this work.



This is why tackling climate change is my passion and this report marks a clear step forward from the changes I called for a year ago, but there is still a long road ahead. We need urgent decarbonisation and faster, more transparent progress. I asked the team to identify clear actions to accelerate delivery, establish interim milestones, prepare robust funding proposals, and develop dynamic dashboards so that residents and partners could easily see how we are performing.

I am pleased to report that this year's update delivers on those improvements. The introduction of detailed action roadmaps, clearer milestones and our online emissions dashboards has strengthened our ability to track progress and make informed decisions. We now have a detailed Local Area Energy Plan (LAEP) and, together, these changes place the Council and our community in a much stronger position to take the bold steps required to achieve meaningful progress towards our climate targets.

We know that finance is a challenge, not just for the Council, but for our residents and businesses too. We must make a clear case for the benefits of decarbonisation. Our LAEP demonstrates that doing nothing costs money, from wasting energy through inefficiency, paying out for imported fossil fuels, and not keeping pace with new technologies. But the positives are more compelling; secure locally owned energy sources immune to world events, active travel that encourages healthier lifestyles, fewer cars on the road leading to better safety and air quality in our communities; the list goes on.

Over the past year we have made important strides. With partners we are conducting an externally-funded study into geothermal energy opportunities – an exciting prospect that could heat neighbourhoods using heat from the ground. Work is progressing on the 15 key priorities identified in the Local Area Energy Plan, which will influence how energy is generated, distributed and used across the entire BCP area. We have installed solar panels on Two Riversmeet leisure centre, are due to shortly install solar generation on the Prom Café and we have a pipeline of funding-ready solar projects undergoing scoping and feasibility assessment. I am also pleased that we secured funding in 2025 to deliver Carbon Literacy training for officers and Councillors, helping to ensure that climate awareness and responsibility underpin decision making across the organisation.

I look forward to the year ahead as a crucial one; a year in which this Council must take the key decisions set out in the roadmaps, demonstrate continued, visible progress on climate action, and work with residents and partners across the area to promote change. By doing so, we can move with confidence and purpose towards a decarbonised and safer future for people in the Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole area.



Councillor Andy Hadley
Portfolio Holder for Climate Response, Environment and Energy

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Executive summary

BCP Council is committed to tackling the climate and ecological emergency so that our residents can enjoy safe, healthy, vibrant lives. Every year we report on the progress we are making to reduce our impact on the climate through our carbon emissions from the Council's own services and across the wider Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole (BCP) area.

This year marks the **sixth** update since the Council declared a Climate and Ecological Emergency in 2019, and whilst we are pleased with the reported progress, we know we need to go further.

BCP Council now needs to align to changes in current policy and prepare itself for a move to clean energy, and this will mean identifying emerging technology, switching from gas and investing in strategic partnerships that can help us to shape delivery models.



Many local authorities are facing similar pressures to BCP Council, including the impact of recent climate events, that are accelerating climate risks, primarily intense flooding, heatwaves and coastal erosion, all of which threaten public health and infrastructure.

Progress against our corporate commitments

1

Make Council operations carbon neutral by 2030

Since our baseline year in 2019, the Council's carbon emissions have **decreased by 21 per cent**. This includes emissions from our buildings, vehicles, streetlighting and the services we provide.

2

Work with the wider community to make the region carbon neutral by 2045

Areawide emissions for 2023 have **decreased by 18 per cent** compared with 2019, based on the latest *government data*ⁱ.

The council has made significant investment during the 2024/25 reporting period, implementing decarbonisation projects such as Two Riversmeet Leisure Centre, investment in our social housing stock, taking many homes to an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) rating C, further investment in electrical vehicle (EV) charging points, commissioning an area-wide heat network study looking into using some of BCP's excellent geothermal natural resource potential, and securing grant funding for private sector housing retrofit through the national government's Warm Homes Plan.

More recently, since this reporting year 2024-25 completed, we have continued to develop *the climate dashboard*ⁱⁱⁱ, and have developed a new Climate Vulnerability Tool, which maps climate risks and potential impacts on communities across the BCP area. The tool brings together data on flooding, heat, exposure and vulnerability to provide a clearer picture of where climate impacts are likely to be felt most strongly.

We are continually enhancing our evidence base through improved data and greater transparency, enabling more informed decision-making and strengthening our readiness for funding opportunities and strategic partnerships.

With this work in place, we are now moving into the next phase: planning the long-term actions needed to reach our climate goals. To support this, we have developed *two detailed roadmaps* that set out the decisions and actions required to reach both our own Council carbon neutral by 2030 target.

A further roadmap focusing on how we can help the whole region reach carbon neutrality by 2045 has been prepared as part of the *Local Area Energy Plan (LAEP)*^{iv}. In the next year, work will be done to combine these roadmaps and understand the actions needed to deliver them.

The LAEP's 15 key actions were developed in collaboration with a wide range of stakeholders and sector leads. The 2025 LAEP launch marks the beginning of delivering these actions, including the creation of business cases, financial models, and routes to market. Achieving this will require a coordinated regional approach with multiple strategic partners. Progress against each action will be monitored and reported through the climate dashboard.

The challenges grow

There is an urgency in acting now, we can no longer delay, we need to accelerate our progress to combat the effects of climate change.

The *Met Office's State of the UK Climate report 2024*^v gives a clear message: temperature and rainfall extremes are becoming the norm.

Key report messages	What this means for us in BCP
Since the 1980s, the UK has warmed by 0.25°C per decade.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hot air can hold more water; this has led to more rain, and heavier rainfall events, leading to an Increased risk of flooding from rivers and groundwater across our area. • Extremely hot weather can be hazardous for some residents and visitors, and increases risk of heath fires. • Destabilisation of the coastal cliffs.
The last 3 years were all in the top 5 warmest on record.	
Winter 2023–24 was the wettest October–March period ever recorded.	
The leaf-on season is now 7 days longer than the 1999–2023 average.	This, and a more prolonged period of leaf-fall stretches the resources of the teams clearing roads, pavements and gulleys.
Frost days have dropped by 25% since the 1980s.	This changes the plants and animals that are suited to our climate, and the health of soils. Plants are flowering at increasingly odd times, which will mean nectar for insects and birds is at the wrong time for breeding.

Table 1: The significance of climatic change on Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole

These changes aren't predictions; they're already happening.





Heath fire at Holt, which destroyed 72 hectares of heathland, the worst of 83 fire incidents on Dorset Heaths in 2025.

In January 2026, the Government published the '***Nature security assessment on global biodiversity loss, ecosystem collapse and national security***'¹. It shows how environmental degradation can disrupt food, water, health and supply chains, and trigger wider geopolitical instability. It identifies six ecosystems of strategic importance for the UK and explores how their decline could drive cascading global impacts.

This assessment, which was developed by analysts and experts across HM Government, supports long-term resilience planning, and highlights how interconnected Climate Change, and consequent biodiversity loss are, and how these are already impacting food systems, health, migration and economics.

Success story highlights

Council success stories 2024/25

Two Riversmeet Leisure Complex in Christchurch now uses solar PV panels to power the facility, reducing energy use by an estimated 100,000 kWh each year and cutting utility bills by around 20 per cent. Installed in September 2024 with £157,000 from Sport England and £600,000 from the Council, the project also included upgrades to the pool plant room and the addition of air source heat pumps for heating the pool.



Residents and beach visitors benefit from cleaner air and a quieter seafront thanks to the Council's introduction of two new pedal-assist e-cargo bikes. Funded through part of a Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA) Air Quality Fund these low-emission bikes help keep our beach services running smoothly by restocking catering outlets and maintaining washroom facilities from Shore Road to Southbourne.



CP Council joined UK 100, a network of councils ambitious to make progress on climate change, sharing experiences, best practice and setting an ambitious target of net zero by 2045.



Ashdown leisure centre swapped its halide floodlights for light-emitting diode (LED) units, saving money, cutting energy use and reducing the centre's carbon footprint. The upgrade includes remote switching and improved lighting for the athletics club. Users welcomed the upgrade, commenting on improved visibility and reliability.



**Areawide
success
stories
2024/25**

The Carbon Literacy for SMEs programme launched in November 2024 to support BCP-based businesses and Early Years in building climate awareness and tackling action. All sessions were delivered in partnership with the Carbon Literacy Trust and BCP Council. Parallel business grant support for undertaking energy audits and decarbonisation initiatives ran in parallel to this.



The Transforming Travel work was completed in Wimborne Road in 2024 and improved bus stops, pedestrian crossings and cycle paths on this busy road. The results show a significant uplift in daily cycle journeys all year around, and the Longfleet Junior School is seeking additional cycle storage as a result.

Peatland restoration at Canford Heath completed in February 2025, transforming over 37 hectares of land into a thriving wetland habitat. These nature-based solutions will help rare species return, reduce wildfire and flood risk, and lock away carbon; peatlands can store up to three times more carbon than woodlands.



Seven permanent School Streets now exist across the BCP area. By restricting traffic and parking outside schools during peak times, while allowing access for residents and blue badge holders, the initiative aims to enhance safety, encourage active travel, and improve air quality.

A survey showed a 12 per cent increase in walking, cycling, or scooting, and 92 per cent supported making the scheme permanent. Around 80 per cent of respondents said they felt safer outside their schools during the trial.



Areawide further highlights 2024/25



Shaping of the Local Area Energy Plan got underway with consultations and engagements



Restoration of the Long Groyne at Hengistbury Head to protect against rising sea levels and severe storms



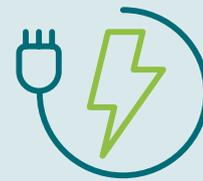
BCP Urban Forest Strategy^{vi} guided tree planting in areas with the least canopy cover



433 **new homes built to EPC B and A standards** during 2024



Healthy Homes Dorset **insulation scheme** saves £659k on household bills and 620 tCO₂e¹ each year



Secured £1.4m in **Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure funding** to install 1,100 charge points over the coming years



Winton Library has been transformed into a **thriving green space**, thanks to volunteers from the BH9 Business Community and support from BCP Council



Thirty local stakeholders met to discuss the area's climate goals and ideas for **partnership working**



Grant funding was given to 45 businesses to undertake energy audits, set targets and fund decarbonisation improvements

Performance overview

Delivering on the recommendations

The recommendations set out as part of the **2023-24 Climate Action Annual Report^{vii}** approval process have now been delivered. These recommendations were as follows:

- The introduction of an emissions dashboards and its continual refinement.
- The drafting of **roadmaps** of climate actions. These have been developed and this report seeks their approval from Cabinet to take the Council to its carbon neutral by 2030 target.
- The development of a companion **roadmap** as part of the Local Area Energy Plan which seeks to address the area-wide 2045 target. This also has been developed and this report its approval from Cabinet to take the Council to its 2045 target.

Over the past year, the Council has taken clear and practical steps to strengthen climate action, improve governance and set strong foundations to accelerate progress towards our carbon neutral goals. More recently (2025-26) we have also taken positive action on preparing the Council for project delivery, working in partnership with procurement to develop a framework for solar panels, identifying buildings with high energy usage, work on bill validation and demand forecasting. This preparation will support our project delivery during 2026/27.



¹ tCO₂e is shorthand for tonnes of carbon dioxide CO₂ equivalent. Greenhouse gases which cause climate chaos also include methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (NO₂), and the fluorinated gases. These other gases have varying impacts, although often have shorter lifespans and are higher in intensity than CO₂. However, they are all converted into CO₂e to provide a consistent metric to enable comparison. For reference, the emissions of the average person in the UK are around 12 tCO₂e per year, depending on what is included in scope

2030 BCP Council target

Make BCP Council and its operations carbon neutral by 2030

Overall progress to this target

The overall trend in the Council's organisational emissions returns to moving in the right direction, but time is increasingly short. As of 2024/25, total recorded emissions have **decreased by 21 per cent** since the baseline year of 2019, reflecting sustained progress across a range of Council services.

Emissions across all of the Council scope subcategories have decreased against the 2019/20 baseline. In comparison to 2023/24, for the reporting year 2024/25 decreases in emissions were seen across all of scopes 1, 2 and 3, as shown in *Figure 1* and *Table 2*.

Stronger governance structures, monitoring methods and cross-department co-operation mechanisms are now in place. The Climate and Sustainability Service has also expanded its team, welcoming two new members, providing additional resource to design and implement a wider range of measures. While ambitions require ramping up and realisation, we are in a much stronger position to enact effective and sustained progress towards our targets.

Annual BCP Council emissions since 2019 (KtCO₂e)

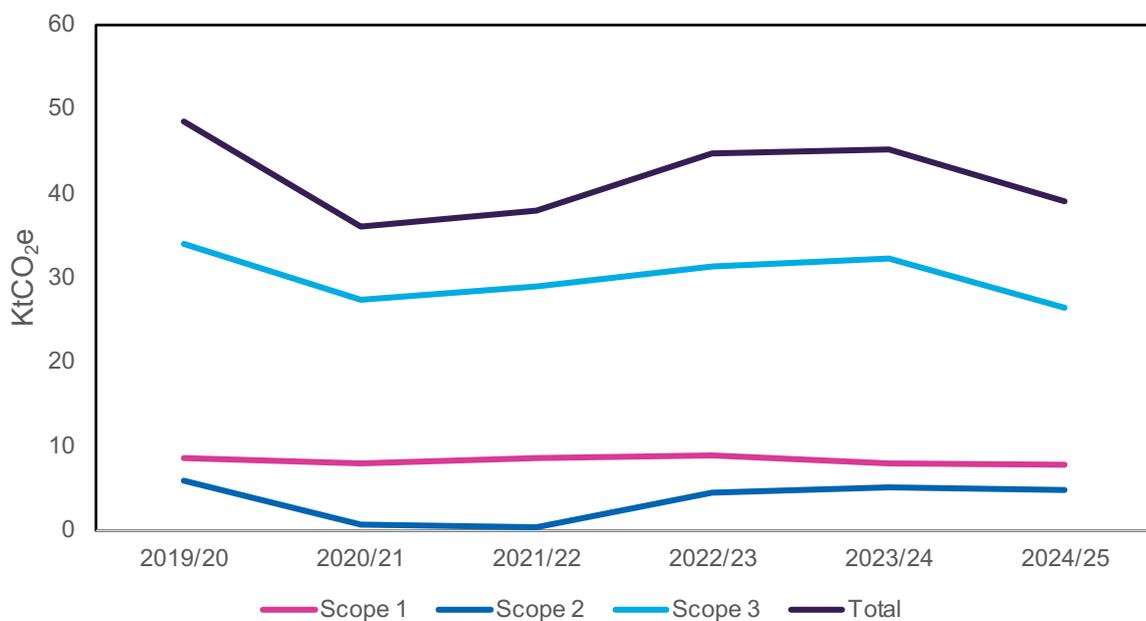


Figure 1: Chart showing the change in BCP Council emissions between 2019 and 2025 for scopes 1, 2 and 3

BCP Council emission categories as a proportion of total emissions



Figure 2: Hierarchy chart highlighting BCP Council's main sources of emissions, ensuring focus is maintained on the areas where we can make the biggest impact

Sector	Scope	Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions (tCO ₂ e)						% change between 2019/20 and 2024/5	% share of total emissions in 2024/25
		2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25		
Natural gas usage	1	4,570	4,112	4,898	5,177	4,357	4,455	2.5% decrease	11.4
Refrigerant leakage	1		138	6	39	29	113	18.1% decrease	0.3
Vehicle fuel	1	4,009	3,652	3,732	3,646	3,601	3,211	19.9% decrease	8.2
Electricity usage	2	5,524	312	244	4,301	4,923	4,725	14.5% decrease	12.1
Water	3	458	332	182	222	175	157	65.7% decrease	0.4
Paper	3	1,764	111	31	29	27	43	97.6% decrease	0.1
Grid	3	469	397	421	393	426	418	10.9% decrease	1.1
Waste	3	101	28	54	52	63	40	60.9% decrease	0.1
Business travel	3	582	171	195	239	278	302	48% decrease	0.8
Staff commuting	3	3,630	885	905	2,470	2,672	1,527	57.9% decrease	3.9
Home working	3					585	186	68.3% decrease	0.5
Leased out buildings	3	28,284	27,319	27,194	27,334	28,011	23,709	16.2% decrease	61.2
TOTAL		49,390	37,458	37,860	43,903	45,148	38,886	21% decrease	

Table 2: BCP Council emissions by scope subcategory per year between 2019/20 and 2024/25

Scope subcategory	Emissions 2023/24 (tCO ₂ e)	Emissions 2024/25 (tCO ₂ e)	% change between 2023/24 & 2024/25	Explanation of variance
Natural gas usage	4,357	4,455	+2.2%	A relatively small year-on-year change which is difficult to pinpoint. The overall trend since 2019/20 remains down by 2.5%, which we attribute to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retrofit investment on corporate estate • Decommissioning of the corporate estate
Vehicle fuel	3,601	3,211	-10.8%	A significant increase in the amount of Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) purchased (and an equivalent decrease in the like-for-like replacement of the more polluting diesel) between 23/24 and 24/25 explains most of this decrease. Complete replacement of diesel with HVO (used to fuel our bin lorries, vans, social care minibuses and parks vehicles) is estimated to cost in excess of £400,000 per annum. Its performance and economics will be monitored ongoing. We have also continued to electrify our fleet - as of April 2025 we reached 74 Electric Vehicles (EVs), up from 66 in early 2024. The main constraint is electrical capacity and space at the depots.
Electricity usage	4,923	4,725	-4.0%	Continued rollout of efficiency improvements, such as those on Two Riversmeet. Decreases can be identified through the decommissioning (sale) of corporate property and efficiency improvement programmes at a number of sites. Decarbonisation of the grid has also contributed to this decrease as well as a decrease in the number of properties in use.

Table 3: Explanations behind the change in emission levels for some of the most significant variances in scopes 1 and 2

Scope subcategory	Emissions 2023/24 (tCO ₂ e)	Emissions 2024/25 (tCO ₂ e)	% change between 2023/24 & 2024/25	Explanation of variance
BCP Council homes	24,094	20,681	-14%	The average emissions for Council homes has decreased to 2.3 tCO ₂ e per year (down from 2.9 tCO ₂ e) in Bournemouth and to 2 tCO ₂ e per year (down from 2.1 tCO ₂ e) in Poole. This was realised through updated Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs) which picked up energy efficiency works completed in the last few years, and a data cleansing exercise.
Other leased out buildings	3,916	3,028	-23%	These emissions are estimated based upon the Council's housing stock (above) as a reference, meaning emissions have fallen in line based on which relating housing stock area these leased out buildings reside.
Commuting	2,672	1,527	-43%	A new staff travel survey was implemented, taking into consideration vehicle type in greater detail e.g. EVs, hybrids and plug-in hybrids. The use of these less polluting vehicles has therefore been taken into account, alongside an increase in hybrid working.
Waste	63	40	-37%	Reductions in waste emissions stem from lower impact emissions factors in the treatment of waste and the changes to recycling treatments.

Table 4: Explanations behind the change in emission levels for some of the most significant variance in scope 3²

² Note that scope 3: leased out buildings has been broken down further between BCP Council homes and other leased out buildings

Carbon reduction target roadmaps

Council carbon neutral by 2030 target – Roadmap for scopes 1 and 2

The *2023-24 Climate Action Annual Report*^{vi} recognised that a clear pathway was needed to show the required steps to reach our carbon neutral by 2030 target. All actions listed in the roadmaps have been benchmarked against published local authority methodologies such as from the *Association for Public Service Excellence (APSE)*^{viii}, and are based on technologies that are currently available.

Whilst the roadmaps and interim target remain the same as the previous report, progress has been made against a number of the highlighted actions which can be reviewed in Table 5. There are a number of variables and uncertainties which will be taken into consideration including funding opportunities, strategic partnership alliances, the cost of inputs, and changes in national policy and outlook. Each action will require further evidence to support the project viability. This will be demonstrated by detailed business cases and clear delivery pathways.

The roadmaps will be reviewed in each interim target year and amended to reflect progress and new opportunities.

BCP Council scopes 1 and 2 emissions roadmap

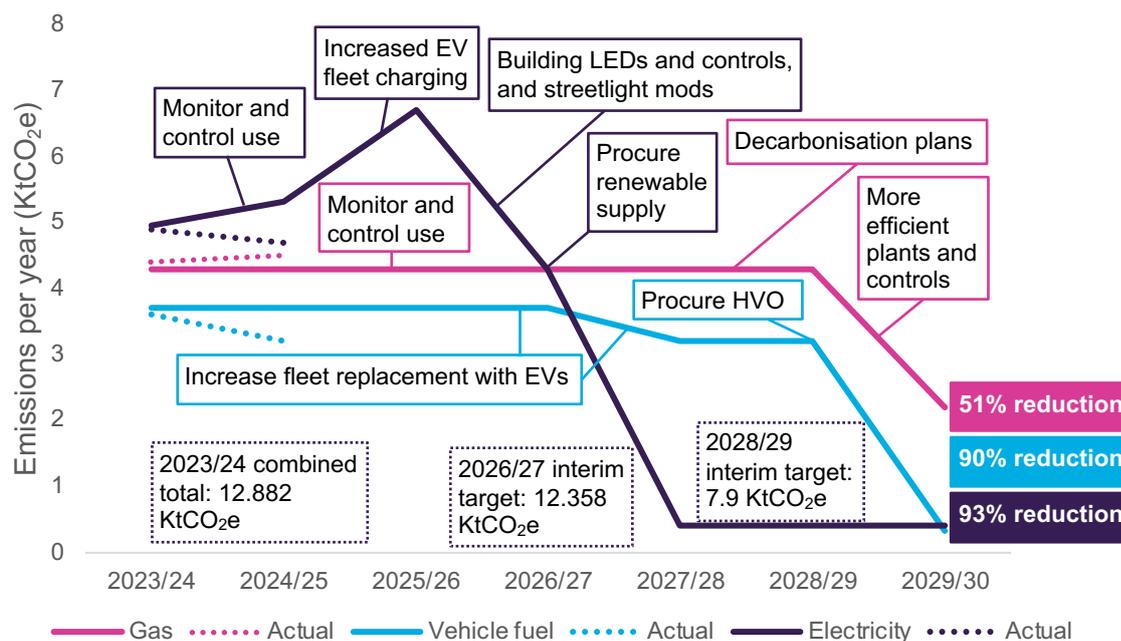


Figure 3: BCP Council scopes 1 and 2 roadmap to becoming carbon neutral by 2030. Dotted lines represent actual progress to date.

Progress to date

In 2023/24 we set two interim targets to guide us towards the final target: one for 2026/27 and one for 2028/29. The targeted emissions levels are 12,358 tCO₂e by 2026/27 and 3,546 tCO₂e by 2028/29. Emissions reductions achieved in 2024/25 are currently exceeding the target set for 2025/26. If scopes 1 and 2 emissions are reduced by a further one per cent (from the baseline year) by 2026/27, we will have achieved the first interim target.

Target year	Category	RAG rating	Explanation
Monitor and control use	Gas		200 tCO ₂ e above target. Two Riversmeet leisure centre retrofit is showing large decreases in gas and has proven the model for wider leisure centre rollout. Other planned sites for electrification are currently under review.
Increase fleet replacement with EVs	Vehicle use		As of April 2025, we reached 74 EVs, up from 66 in early 2024, meaning we are on track in terms of small fleet with a temporary solution in place for refuse vehicles. However, for us to continue to make the progress needed, further expansion is dependent on improved infrastructure at our depots.
Monitor and control use	Electricity		We are taking steps to improve our internal data monitoring and control. We are currently optimising and looking to enhance Energy Management Systems in our highest consuming buildings and have a current funding programme to target those which are most practicable.

Table 5: RAG rating for scope 1 and 2 roadmap interventions up to 2024/25

Target year	Gas	Vehicle fuel	Electricity	Total
2023/24 target	4.3	3.7	4.6	12.6
2023/4 actual	4.4	3.6	4.9	12.9
2024/25 target	4.3	3.7	5.3	13.3
2024/25 actual	4.5	3.2	4.7	12.4
2025/26	4.3	3.7	6.7	14.7
2026/27 *interim target year	4.3	3.7	4.3	12.3
2027/28	4.3	3.2	0.4	7.9
2028/29 *interim target year	4.3	3.2	0.4	7.9
2029/30	2.2	0.3	0.4	2.9

Table 6: Progress to date against annual roadmap projections and targets. All figures are in KtCO₂e

Council carbon neutral by 2030 target – Roadmap for scope 3

Scope 3 emissions include the indirect sources outlined earlier in this report, such as leased out buildings, staff commuting and business travel. A roadmap (Figure 4) has also been produced for these emissions to show where the Council can influence reductions.

How and where we can affect change

Scope 3 includes our largest emissions source; leased out buildings – a category over which we do not have full property management control. The vast majority of the Council’s leased out buildings are social housing and there is a programme of works to improve the energy efficiency of these to ensure that they reach EPC C rating by 2030. The Council has made provisions within the Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP) for the decarbonisation of the social housing stock up to 2035, this is estimated to cost £8,000-£9,000 per property.

Other tenants of council leased out buildings, such as those operating leisure centres, have demonstrated that they are willing to take action to reduce emissions. In the case of BHLive, they have chosen to procure zero emissions electricity to cut their and, in turn, the Council’s emissions. It is estimated that approximately ten per cent of total emissions will remain after all steps have been taken which will require offsetting. This is where both aspects of the climate and ecological emergency declaration combine, as planned action to increase biodiversity and the resilience of nature can in turn reduce and store carbon. In recognition of this, nature-based offsetting is included in the roadmap (Figure 4). Other potential projects are also undergoing review. Expanding nature-based carbon removal projects like this will play an important role in mitigating difficult-to-avoid future emissions. We will be assessing how Biodiversity Net Gain, and our other nature recovery plans and strategies can support us in this effort.

BCP Council scope 3 emissions roadmap

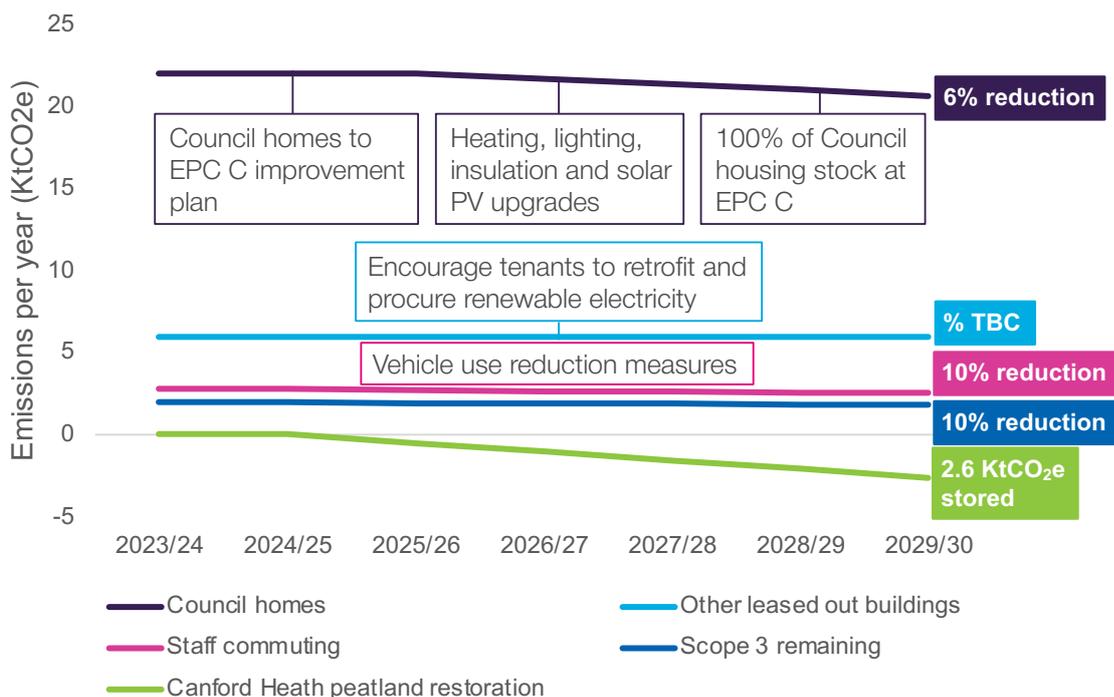


Figure 4: BCP Council scope 3 roadmap to becoming carbon neutral by 2030

Performance overview

2045 areawide target

Make the BCP area carbon neutral by 2045

Overall progress to this target

The overall trend in greenhouse gas emissions across the Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole area continues to show steady progress. Total recorded emissions have now **decreased by 18 per cent** since the baseline year of 2019. The breakdown of this is shown in Figure 5 and Table 6. This demonstrates steady progress towards the region's long-term goal of becoming carbon neutral by 2045, yet significant acceleration is still required.

The data used in this analysis is the most recent available from the UK Government. *National emissions datasets*ⁱⁱ are published with a one-to-two-year time lag, which means the latest figures currently cover the period up to 2023. Despite this delay, there is now enough consistent data to show clear areawide progress between 2019 and 2024, and to track key trends across the main emitting sectors.

Government published data includes emissions from scopes 1 and 2, broken down by sector, but does not provide a full picture of scope 3 emissions due to their complexity and the lack of nationally consistent methodology. To present a more complete view, our *emissions dashboard*ⁱⁱⁱ incorporates an estimated scope 3 figure based on recognised modelling from the *SCATTER project*^{ix}, providing users with a fuller understanding of the areawide carbon footprint.

More detail on sector trends and factors driving change is provided in the following sections, alongside the interactive data available through our *online dashboards*ⁱⁱⁱ.

Emissions per sector in the BCP area 2019-2023

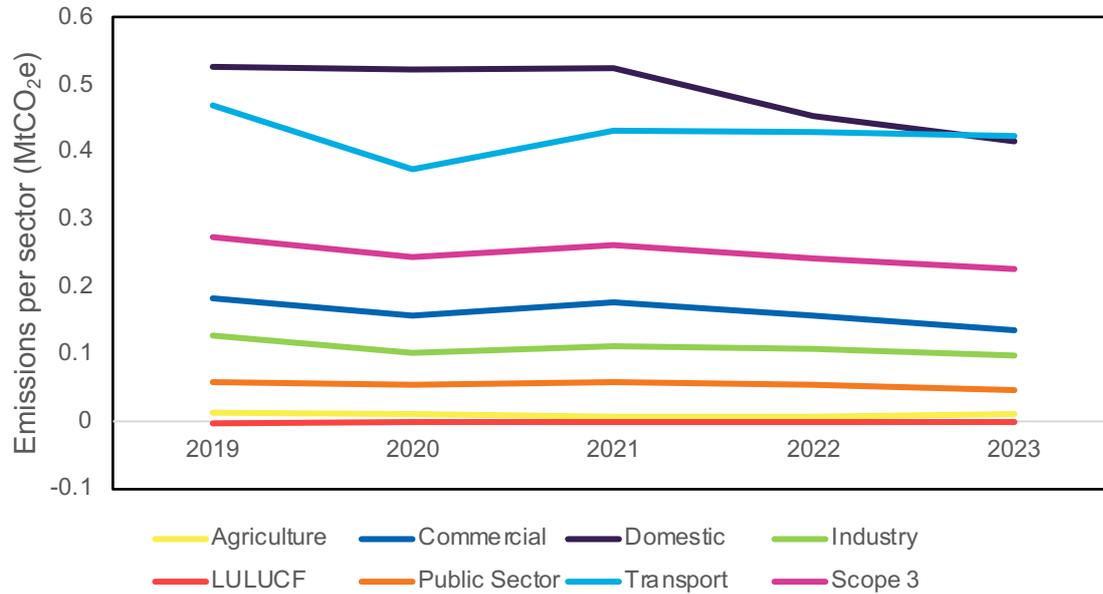


Figure 5: Areawide emissions by sector per year from 2019 to 2023

Sector ³	Change since 2019	2023 % of total	Indicator of rise or fall in emissions
Agriculture	-15%	15	↓
Commercial	-25%	10.03%	↓
Domestic	-21%	30.68%	↓
Industry	-23%	7.13%	↓
LULUCF (land use, land use change and forestry) ⁴	+71%	-0.03%	↑
Public Sector	-19%	3.47%	↓
Transport	-9%	31.32%	↓
Scope 3	-18%	16.67%	↓

Table 7: Changes in emissions by grouped areawide sector between 2019 and 2023

³ The government data we use for areawide figures has a one-to-two-year lag. 2023 therefore represents the latest available data.

⁴ Although emissions from LULUCF remain negative, relative emissions have increased, as in 2019 this sector in the area was sequestering more CO₂e from the atmosphere than in 2023.

Domestic emissions

The most substantial emissions reductions have come from emissions generated by gas and electricity use in homes, which have **decreased by 21 per cent** since 2019. This positive trend has likely been driven by a combination of factors, including:

- improved home energy efficiency, supported by national and local schemes such as the Home Upgrade Grant and Healthy Homes Dorset
- ongoing decarbonisation of the national electricity grid, reducing emissions from household electricity use
- the increasing energy efficiency of household appliances
- a gradual shift away from gas boilers to heat pumps and other low carbon heating technologies
- a growing public awareness of climate change, prompting behaviour change and more conscious energy use
- higher energy prices, which have encouraged many households to reduce consumption.

Growth rate of key low carbon technologies in BCP

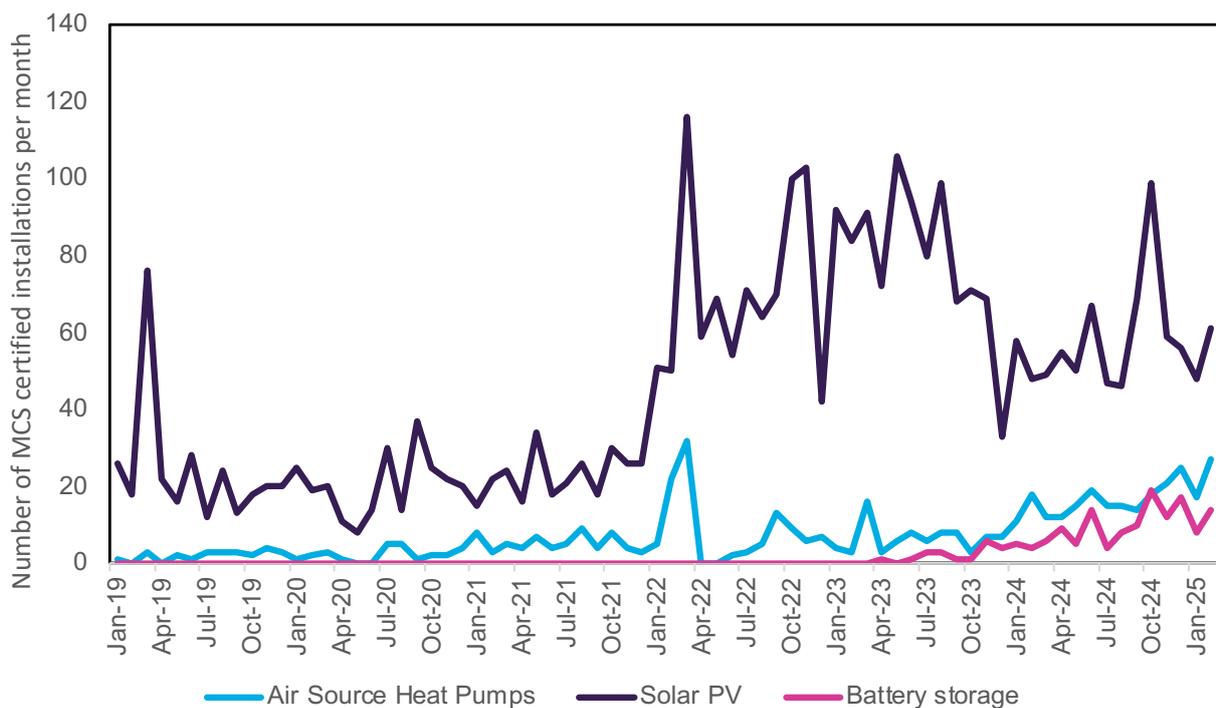


Figure 6: Number of Microgeneration Scheme certified installations for the leading low carbon technologies per month in the BCP area, between 2019 and 2025. Records indicate a steady increase in installations over recent months and years*.

Transport emissions

Previously a rising trend, transport emissions have now levelled off across the BCP area.

Public transport

In 2024/25, the area saw a significant rise in public transport usage, with bus journeys increasing to 23.4 million, up by 14 per cent from 20.6 million in the previous year. This increase in part was in part due to a £2 national fare cap (now £3 nationally), and the ‘commuter club’ Morebus initiative capping fares on all routes within Zone A after 7pm to £1, funded by the **BCP Council’s Bus Service Improvement Plan^{xi}**.

Active travel

Regional data for the Southwest^{xii} from the 2024 National Travel Survey, shows continued engagement with walking and cycling with a 14 per cent higher modal share as a proportion of total traffic volume compared to 2019 levels. Rates of walking and cycling were higher for shorter distance trips.

Electric vehicle (EV) adoption

BCP has seen a steady rise in battery electric, hybrid electric, and plug-in hybrid electric vehicle adoption^{xiii}. EV infrastructure investment is planned to keep pace with this trend. The **Public Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Strategy (PEVIS)^{xiv}** for 2024-2030, forecasts 44 per cent of cars within the area will be electric by 2030. Figure 6 shows EV and hybrids overtaking petrol and diesel models in new vehicle registrations for the first time in BCP in 2025.

Registration of vehicles in BCP by fuel type

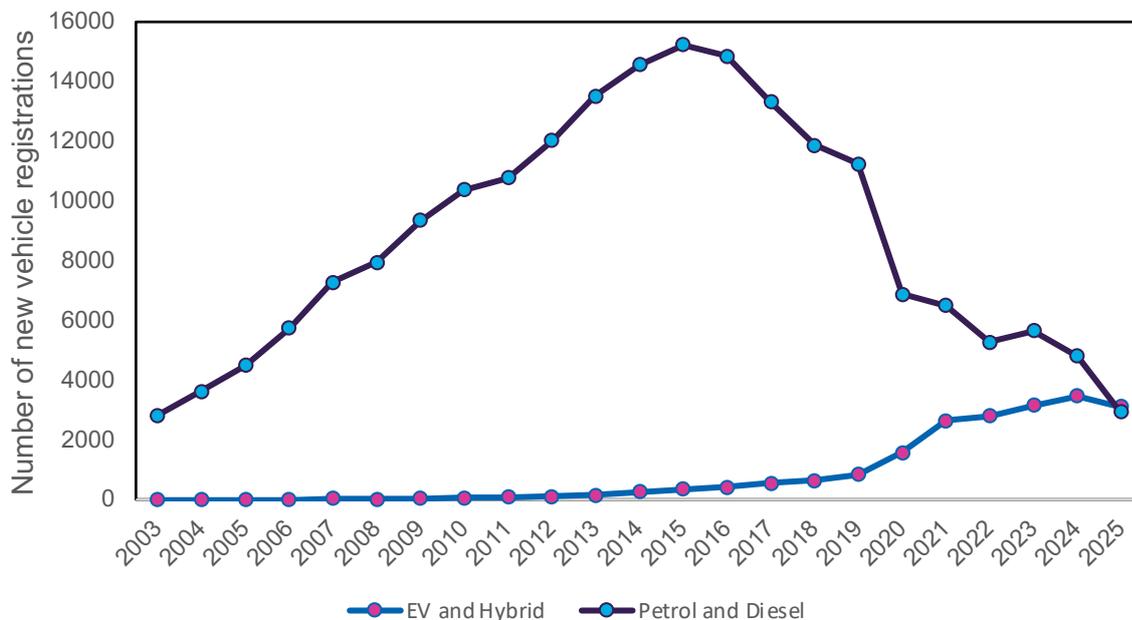


Figure 7: Department for Transport figures of new vehicle registrations^{xii}

Methodology and reporting periods

The **Greenhouse Gas Protocol (GHG Protocol)**^{xv} provides a standardised methodology for business and areas to report their emissions. It is the most widely used methodology and the one which the Council uses for all of its emissions tracking. Its approach categorises emissions into **Scope 1** (emissions released on-site from energy use, usually gas or transport fuel), **Scope 2** (emissions released off-site from energy use, typically from the generation of imported electricity) and **Scope 3** (indirect emissions from everything else an organisation uses, purchases or sells). Scopes are designed show the relative influence a typical organisation has over its emission sources.

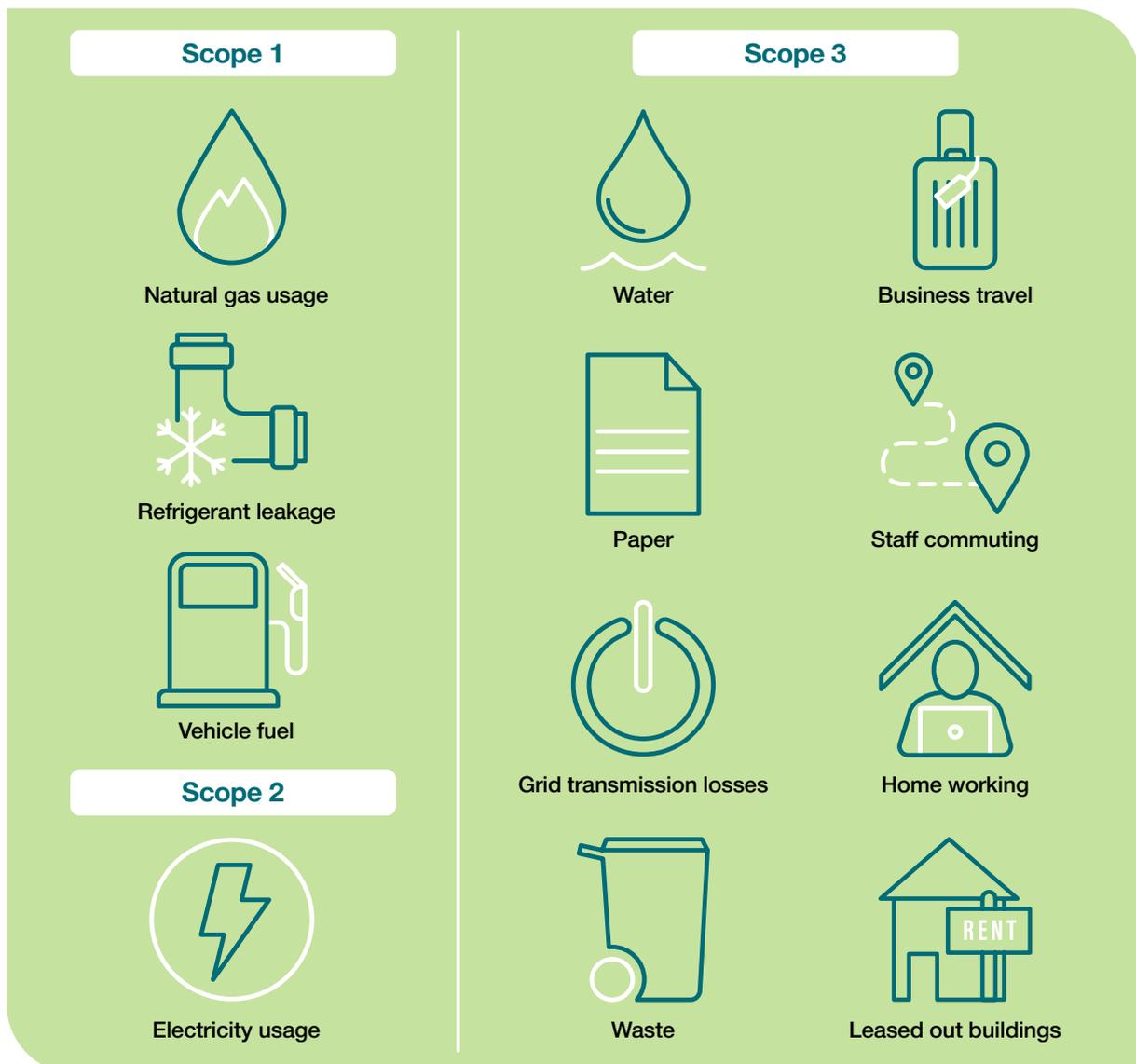


Figure 8: BCP Council emission source by scope category as per the GHG protocol methodology

What is and is not included in scope

For Council emissions all of scope 1 and 2 emissions are included. Unlike many other councils, BCP Council also include scope 3 in our reporting. This includes buildings which the Council leases, the waste it produces, business travel, and commuting by Council employees. However, emissions from purchased goods and services (the CO₂e embedded in the goods we buy) are not included. This is due to high levels of complexity and inaccuracy in the available data required to take targeted action. These consumption-based emissions typically represent one-third of total emissions (50 per cent above the current emissions total when they are excluded^{xvi}).

The areawide dataset is fully inclusive and includes complete data for scope 1 and 2 emissions. Areawide scope 3 emissions are estimated from the **SCATTER project**^x.

The GHG protocol is also under review, and an updated, more emissions inclusive version is expected to be released over the coming years.

Reporting periods

BCP Council emissions reporting is undertaken for each financial year. However, there is a discrepancy in the reporting periods between council emissions and areawide emissions, as shown in Table 7. We contextualise the progress of these emissions by providing data from previous reporting periods.

Reporting periods	Council emissions reporting period	Areawide emissions reporting period
Baseline data report	FY 2019/20 (baseline year)	Calendar year 2018 ⁵
1st annual report	FY 2020/21	Calendar year 2019
2nd annual report	FY 2021/22	Calendar year 2020
3rd annual report	FY 2022/23	Calendar year 2021
4th annual report	FY 2023/24	Calendar year 2022
5th annual report	FY 2024/25	Calendar year 2023

Table 8: Reporting period history and differences in reporting periods for BCP Council and areawide emissions reporting

⁵ The one-to-two-year lag in data cannot be avoided being reliant on when national data becomes available. Where relevant we have made it explicit that reporting activity in the areawide is not comparable to similar activities reported within operational emissions.

Projects and progress 2025-26

The projects outlined in this section reflect the work already underway during the 2025-26 financial year. Many of these initiatives are currently in progress and will continue to develop over the coming months. They offer an early view of the activity that will be reported in detail in next year's Climate Action Annual Report, highlighting how momentum is being maintained beyond the 2024-25 period covered in this document.



Launched the Local Area Energy Plan

The **Local Area Energy Plan (LAEP)**^{iv}, which was published and launched in 2025, sets out detailed targets for energy use in homes, businesses and road transport across the wider area. More detail on the LAEP is outlined in a later section.

Managing a reserve for climate and ecological action

This dedicated fund continues to support energy improvements in council buildings. A series of investments spent on energy efficiency improvements on the corporate estate are anticipated to generate a significant return on investment in utility bill savings, avoiding 282 tCO₂e over the lifespans of the installations. Projects include an air curtain at the Bournemouth pier arcade, a new cooling system in BCP civic offices data centre, new internal LED lighting at Ashdown leisure centre, sensor-controlled lighting in a multistorey carpark and solar PV on the Prom Café.

Further developed our interactive online emissions dashboard

The dashboard provides a more transparent, dynamic and accessible way for residents and partners to view up-to-date emissions data and track progress against our targets.

Created a Climate Vulnerability Tool

This tool helps identify areas within Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole most at risk from the climate change impacts of extreme heat and flooding. This will help to support informed decision-making across the Council to mitigate these risks.

Issued a solar PV procurement framework to the market

A new solar PV procurement framework is due to close its application window shortly. This will support the rapid delivery of solar projects across the Council's estate. Over 100 sites have been scoped for excellent solar PV potential, pending further feasibility assessment.

Funded a heat network study

A study funded by the Southwest Net Zero Hub is looking at the potential for geothermal energy, alongside other technologies such as heat pumps in Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole. This study bridges the gap from earlier studies and starts to prepare the Council for a wider discussion on heat network viability, building an outline business case and providing valuable data for future development of heat networks across the towns. This study will also touch on new heat network zoning legislation which is earmarked for spring 2027.

Supporting schools with climate action and decarbonisation plans

Educational settings are required to develop their own Climate Action Plans setting out how they will reduce emissions, encourage biodiversity, strengthen climate resilience and embed sustainability in teaching. To support this, BCP Council has partnered with the national Climate Ambassadors programme, training several Council officers as Ambassadors. Ambassadors work closely with schools through webinars and in person workshops, alongside offering one-to-one support to help staff build confidence and develop meaningful climate actions.

Strengthened regional partnership working

A refreshed programme of engagement began with a stakeholder meeting in the summer of 2024, aiming to reenergise partnerships with public, private and community organisations. This areawide collaboration will continue to grow throughout 2026, meeting quarterly to learn and share knowledge and progress on decarbonisation and nature recovery initiatives.

Delivered school upgrade projects

Highcliffe St Mark's school now benefits from a warmer winter environment thanks to a major upgrade of the heating system. Improved insulation coupled with intelligent controls which adjust the energy-saving equipment in real time, reduce energy use and keep classrooms comfortable throughout the day.

Delivered funded Carbon Literacy training

Twenty-five funded courses were delivered during 2025, both Council members and officers attended carbon literacy training, and additional funding was sourced for SME support. The intention is to extend this further during 2026/27 by delivering a carbon literacy lite programme to BCP members and officers.

Encouraging and promoting plant-based diets

Steps have been taken towards encouraging and promoting plant-based diets within the BCP area, which will broadly support reduced climate impact from agriculture. Amongst a number of actions, minimum plant-based diets food provision levels will be set for BCP Council owned and operated food outlets and major events. The actions contained are set for annual review.

Next steps for 2026

The year ahead will be pivotal, with several key actions planned to maintain momentum and advance delivery:

- finalise and continue implementing the scopes 1 and 2 roadmaps, including progressing funding bids, feasibility work and early-stage investment proposals
- develop detailed business cases against our highest consuming sites for priority decarbonisation projects, ensuring they are financially sound and aligned with the **Council's strategic priorities**^{ix}
- continue the work of the Carbon Neutral Steering Group, using improved data and roadmap milestones to coordinate delivery across services
- prioritise the **15 actions** identified in the LAEP, setting out a clear framework of actions, responsibilities and sector specific targets for achieving areawide carbon neutrality by 2045
- expand the rollout of solar PV opportunities, progressing identified priority sites (we anticipate installing at least five projects in 2026), through the new procurement framework
- continue Carbon Literacy development for staff, Councillors and partners, supporting clearer, more informed decision making across the organisation
- enhance the emissions dashboards further, incorporating new datasets as they become available and improving the transparency of reporting for residents and partners
- strengthen partnership working, building on the 2024/25 stakeholder engagement and preparing sector specific collaborations that support delivery of the LAEP
- support the delivery of community energy projects, by identifying delivery models and strategic partnerships
- continue to support schools in the delivery of their decarbonisation plans
- develop a regional carbon offset strategy, to mitigate the impacts of residual emissions, approximately ten per cent of BCP's and area-wide targets.
- consider the impacts of achieving the 2030 target, given the changes in national policy and the investment/timeline required to upgrade the national grid
- consider the purchase of 100 per cent renewable electricity, either via a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) or a renewable tariff.

By continuing to take focused, practical action and by working closely with residents, communities, partners and businesses, BCP Council can maintain momentum and move with confidence towards a cleaner, greener and more resilient future.

The Local Area Energy Plan (LAEP)

The Local Area Energy Plan (LAEP)^{iv} was officially launched on 24 October 2025, following over a year in development and Cabinet approval.

The plan provides a data-driven framework to target decarbonisation works in a way that benefits our most fuel impoverished residents first and uses public funds in the most timely and cost-effective way. Fifteen priority actions are ordered around the following four themes:



1. Crosscutting enabling actions (Actions 1-3)



2. Energy generation and infrastructure (Actions 4-7)



3. Building efficiency, retrofit and heat (Actions 8-12)



4. Transport (Actions 13-15)

We have now begun delivering against its 15 actions. Roadmaps focusing on achieving the areawide target of becoming carbon neutral by 2045 have been developed as part this plan to aid prioritised implementation.



Figure 9: Launch event attended by BCP Council Chief Executive, the Leader of the Council, Portfolio Holder, MP, and representatives from City Science and Southwest Net Zero Hub as well as other partners and stakeholders.

LAEP actions and roadmaps to 2045

 **Crosscutting enabling actions**

- 1. Investigate developing a Net Zero fund for financing LAEP delivery across all sectors
- 2. Support local green skills & workforce development to ensure supply chain capacity
- 3. Support the energy transition through local planning policies

 **Energy Generation & Infrastructure Actions**

- 4. Set-up a formal process for reporting to & working with SSEN to optimise net-work planning
- 5. Support rooftop solar PV deployment across all buildings in the BCP area
- 6. Improve understanding of future alternative fuel supply chain
- 7. Encourage community energy projects in the BCP area by developing a support programme

 **Building Efficiency, Retrofit & Heat Actions**

- 8. Support the development of the Dorset Retrofit Hub
- 9. Continue working on decarbonising the BCP Council Estate to meet the 2030 target
- 10. Carry out a scoping exercise to secure funding for Retrofit Works
- 11. Facilitate the development of District Heat Networks in the BCP area
- 12. Scale-up the Healthy Homes Dorset local insulation grant scheme & relevant

 **Transport Actions**

- 13. Support the Local Transport Plan 4 to encourage mode shift to sustainable transport
- 14. Support PEVIS Actions to encourage the rollout of public EV charging infrastructure
- 15. Work towards a zero-emission council fleet and decarbonising the BCP bus fleet

Table 9: LAEP set of 15 actions coloured by theme category

Action Roadmap



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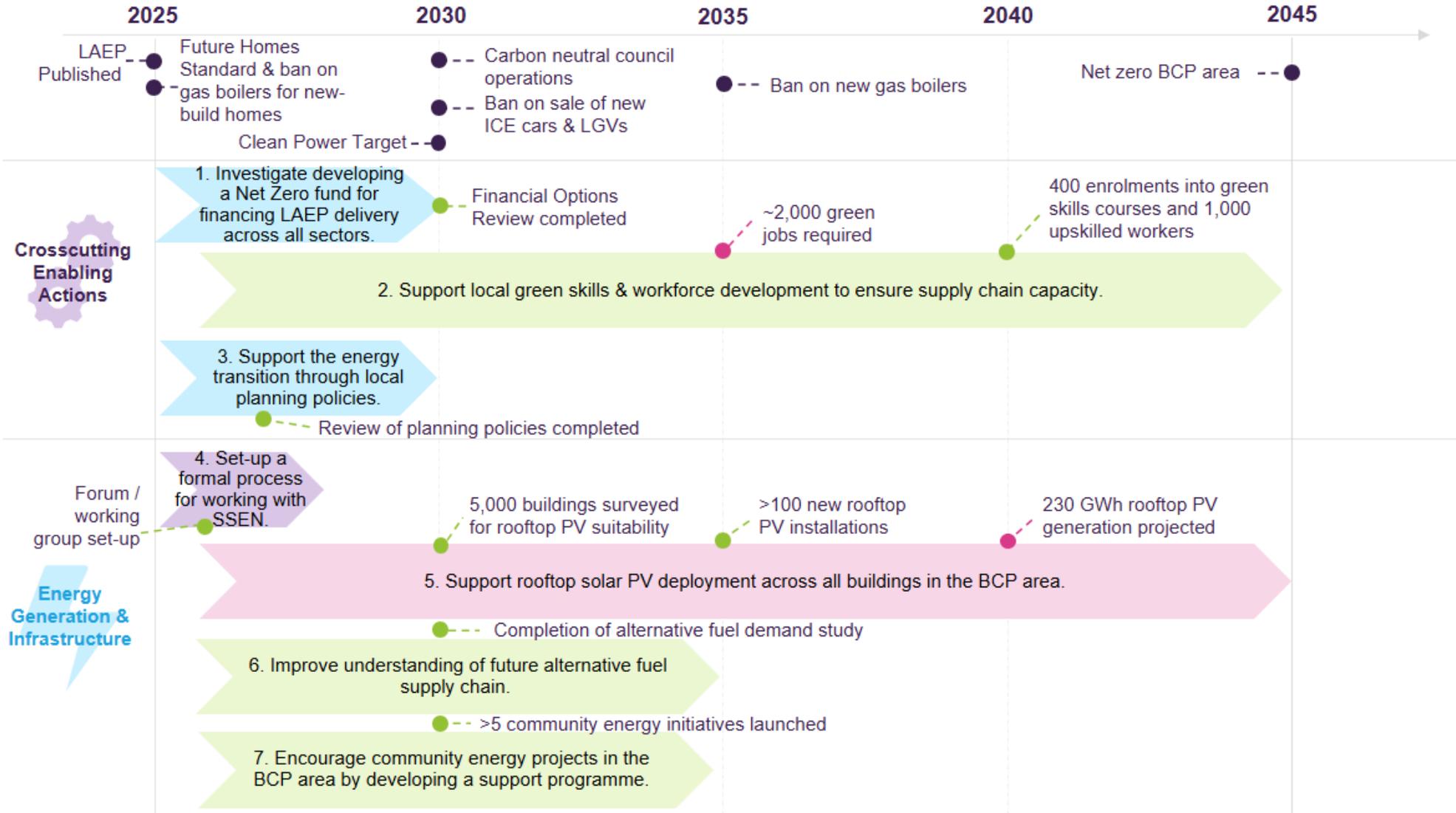


Figure 10: Roadmap for meeting the areawide emissions carbon neutral by 2045 target

Action Roadmap

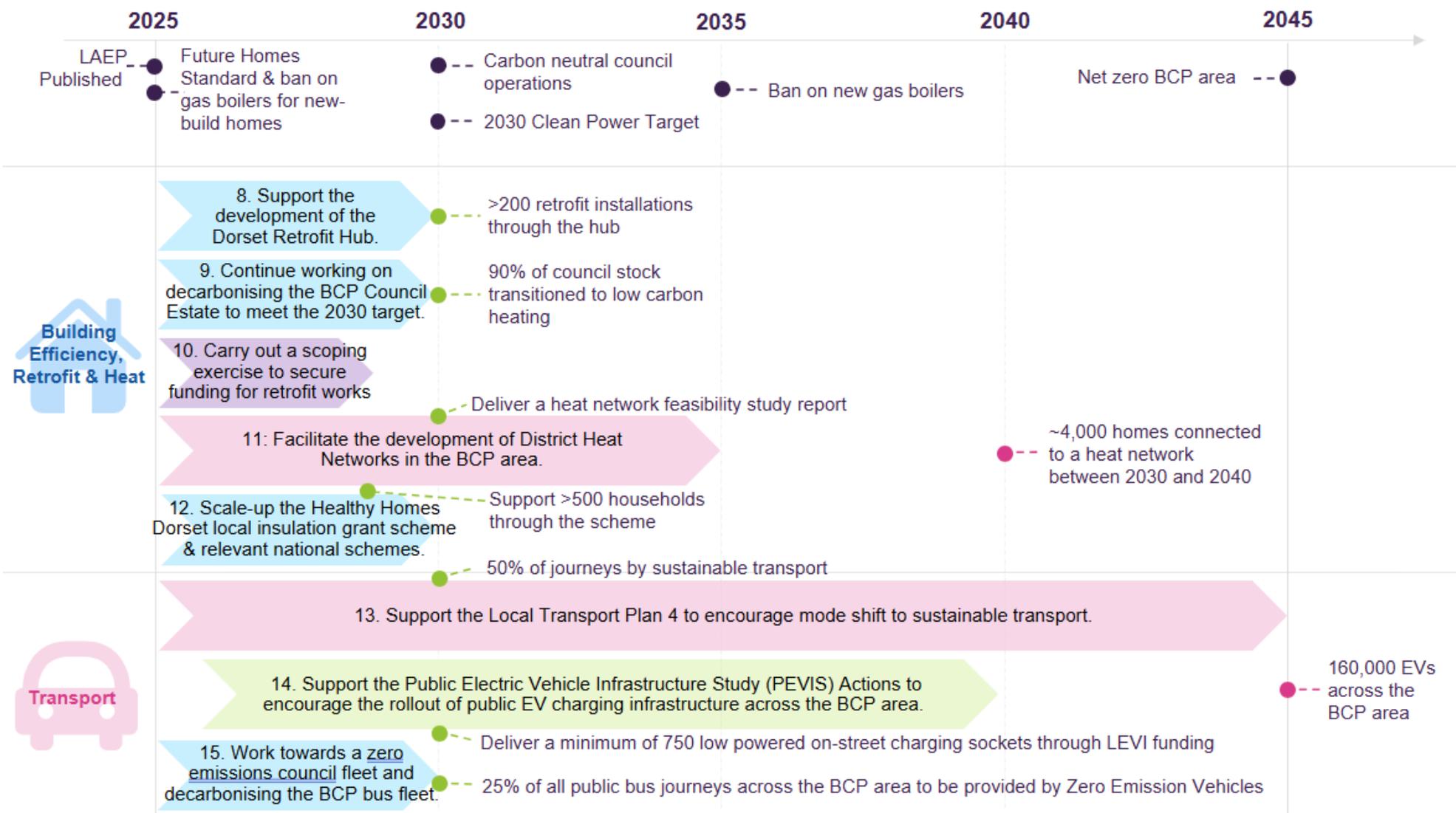


Figure 11: Roadmap for meeting the areawide emissions carbon neutral by 2045 target

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ENVIRONMENT AND PLACE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE



Report subject	Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2026-2031 Update
Meeting date	25 February 2026
Status	Public Report
Executive summary	<p>Homelessness continues to be one of the most significant challenges facing Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole. Demand for assistance has risen sharply, driven by rising private rents, household income pressures and increasing complexity of need. In 2024 to 2025, BCP Council determined that 2,767 households needed formal intervention because of their homelessness or threat of homelessness, representing a doubling of demand compared with 2020. Rough sleeping reached a peak of 193 individual people seen over the month of July 2024 before beginning to reduce through targeted outreach, expanded supported housing and strengthened multi agency work.</p> <p>The proposed Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2026 to 2031 sets out a long term, evidence based and partnership led plan for reducing homelessness and rough sleeping across the area. The Strategy is fully aligned with national Government priorities on homelessness and rough sleeping, including the emphasis on earlier prevention across public services, national commitments to reduce families and children in Bed & Breakfast, rough sleeping and the monitoring of performance within the Local Outcomes Framework.</p> <p>Developed through comprehensive review, extensive engagement, consultation and strong lived experience input, the Strategy presents a shared ambition to make homelessness in BCP rare, brief and unrepeated. It reflects updated statutory data, changing system pressures and learning from recent years. Approval will help BCP Council and its partners strengthen prevention, reduce unsuitable temporary accommodation usage, improve multi agency practices and support people to secure and sustain safe and stable homes.</p> <p>This report sets out the approach taken to developing the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2026–2031, outlines the emerging strategic direction, and seeks the Committee’s input, noting that the detailed Delivery Plan is in its final stages of development and will be presented alongside the Strategy for</p>

	Cabinet approval in May 2026.
Recommendations	<p>It is RECOMMENDED that:</p> <p>Environment and Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee;</p> <p>i) endorse the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2026–2031 and consider any further improvements ahead of consideration at Cabinet in May 2026</p> <p>1. ii) supports the co-production of the Delivery Plan with people who have lived experience and through a working group of Homelessness Delivery Board members.</p> <p>2. iii) consider how future updates of this area of work might be considered for scrutiny.</p>
Reason for recommendations	<p>Local authorities are required to publish a Homelessness Strategy at least every five years to ensure a consistent and coordinated response to homelessness. With the current Strategy concluding in 2026, it is imperative to adopt a refreshed, evidence-led approach that addresses the marked increase in homelessness, the growing complexity of needs among presenting households, and the persistent challenges surrounding housing affordability.</p> <p>Strengthening the Strategy at this juncture will enable the Council to respond proactively to emerging trends, leverage insights from recent engagement and consultation, and ensure that our interventions remain relevant and effective. Furthermore, this approach underscores our commitment to co-production with those who have lived experience, fostering stronger partnerships, and enhancing governance to deliver meaningful, sustainable change for our communities.</p>
Portfolio Holder(s):	Cllr Kieron Wilson – Housing and Regulation
Corporate Director	Laura Ambler – Corporate Director of Wellbeing
Report Authors	<p>Rachel Stewart – Housing Strategy & Compliance Manager</p> <p>Ben Tomlin – Head of Strategic Housing and Partnerships</p> <p>Kelly Deane – Director of Housing and Public Protection</p>
Wards	Council-wide
Classification	For Update and Recommendation

Background

1. The national landscape of homelessness continues to present significant challenges. Across England, private rents have risen faster than many household incomes, and the affordability gap has widened. Homelessness assessments increased between 2021 and 2025, and temporary accommodation use reached its highest recorded levels during 2024 to 2025 in England. Rough sleeping, which fell during the pandemic period due to emergency public health measures, has risen again in many parts of the country.
2. Economic pressures, insecure employment, and continued strain on the private rented sector have contributed to further instability for many low-income households. In addition, more people are presenting with multiple and overlapping needs including mental health conditions, chronic physical health issues, substance use, domestic abuse and trauma. The national focus has shifted strongly toward prevention across all public services, reflected in developments such as legislative change e.g. The Renters Reform Act 2025 and the introduction of national outcomes frameworks intended to standardise performance reporting and partnership expectations within local authority responses to homelessness (this is within the National Plan to End Homelessness published by Government in December 2025).
3. The Homelessness Reduction Act 2017 continues to shape local authority responsibilities, requiring councils to intervene earlier and support households threatened with homelessness. National policy continues to highlight the importance of multi-agency work, particularly for people with complex needs, those experiencing repeat homelessness; and those who experience long term rough sleeping.
4. The new national homelessness strategy sets out a comprehensive framework for tackling homelessness through prevention, early intervention and improved partnership working. Key objectives include enhancing access to affordable housing, reducing the reliance on temporary accommodation, and ensuring robust support for individuals with complex needs. Our own strategy must align with these priorities by prioritising preventative measures, strengthening multi-agency collaboration, and adopting trauma-informed approaches that address the root causes of homelessness. Additionally, there is a renewed emphasis on data-driven decision making, service user involvement, and promoting equitable access to services for all groups, particularly those at risk of hidden homelessness or facing discrimination.

Local Context

1. Homelessness has increased significantly across Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole during the past five years. Homelessness assessments rose from 2,241 in 2021/22, to 2,887 in 2024/25. Duties owed have increased in line with this trend. These pressures reflect a contracting private rented sector with rising rents, reduced affordability, increased competition for properties and strong growth in short term and holiday lets.

2. Rough sleeping reached a peak 193 people in July 2024. Numbers have since begun to fall due to expanded supported accommodation, enhanced street outreach and improved multi agency case coordination, but ongoing pressures remain.
3. The demographic profile of households approaching the Council has remained broadly consistent in terms of age, with no significant change across any age group over the past four years. Young adults aged 18 to 24 continue to represent a substantial share of applicants, but this proportion has remained steady rather than increasing. The same pattern is reflected across other age groups, indicating that age is not the primary factor driving changes in homelessness presentations locally.
4. Instead, the most notable shifts relate to household composition and the complexity of need. Single adults remain the largest household type approaching the Council, but family homelessness has risen steadily, particularly among single- parent families. These trends reflect pressures such as the loss of private rented accommodation, domestic abuse, overcrowding, affordability challenges and the limited availability of larger affordable homes. Women continue to experience higher levels of hidden homelessness, often relying on insecure arrangements or remaining in unsafe situations before seeking formal support.
5. Alongside changes in household composition, the complexity of presenting needs has increased significantly, though this may be in part due to better recognition and recording of support needs. Recent evidence shows that more than 1,500 households presented with mental health needs in 2024/25, and over 1,200 with chronic physical health conditions. Approximately 1,480 households had three or more identified support needs, while only a small minority presented with none. A growing number of applicants face intersecting challenges, including disability, learning disabilities, neurodiversity, substance use, repeat homelessness and the cumulative effects of trauma. Around 22 percent of open homelessness cases involve someone with a learning disability, and frontline services report an increase in people whose homelessness is compounded by social isolation, anxiety and difficulties navigating support systems.
6. There is also a more diverse range of households seeking assistance. People from racially minoritised backgrounds and LGBTQ+ residents report facing discrimination, unsafe or insecure living arrangements, contributing to higher levels of hidden homelessness and delayed engagement with services.
7. Taken together, the evidence shows that while the age profile of applicants has remained stable, the overall composition and needs of households approaching the Council have become more varied and more complex. More families, more single parents, and more individuals presenting with multiple needs and interconnected vulnerabilities are reaching crisis point. This shift highlights the importance of flexible, trauma- informed practice, tailored support pathways and strengthened multi- agency working to respond effectively to the broader and deeper needs now observed across the caseload.
8. Temporary accommodation demand has continued to grow over recent years, driven by rising homelessness approaches, pressures within the private rented sector, and limited availability of settled move- on options. Social housing supply

has not increased in line with local need, resulting in longer stays as households wait for suitable accommodation. This is particularly pronounced for larger families and for people with higher or more complex support needs who require stable or specialist housing.

9. Despite these pressures, the Council has made significant progress in reducing the use of unsuitable bed and breakfast accommodation for families. Through strengthened placement processes, earlier prevention work, improved case coordination and increased access to interim and supported accommodation, the number of families placed in B&B has reduced, with no families in B&B for over 6 weeks sustained across the last 12 months. This improvement reflects sustained operational focus on safeguarding, maintaining access to education, and ensuring families are placed in environments that are safe, appropriate and stable.
10. However, temporary accommodation remains under significant strain. Longer stays are now common due to constrained move- on options and slow turnover within supported housing. Households requiring adapted homes, multi- agency support or affordable private rentals face particularly long waits, creating bottlenecks throughout the system. These pressures illustrate the need for increased availability of genuinely affordable housing and further expansion of supported and specialist accommodation pathways to prevent prolonged use of temporary accommodation.
11. The private rented sector (PRS) plays a dual and often conflicting role within the homelessness system. On one hand, the loss of a private rented tenancy; often due to affordability pressures, rising rents, Section 21 notices, or landlords selling or repurposing properties; remains a leading cause of homelessness locally. Competition for available homes has intensified, and a growing proportion of properties are being diverted into short- term or holiday lets, reducing the supply of long-term accommodation for local residents.
12. At the same time, the PRS is the largest and most effective route for both preventing and relieving homelessness. Early intervention work through services such as Let's Talk Renting and an active and engaged local Landlords Forum has helped increasing numbers of households to sustain existing tenancies through landlord negotiation, financial support, and resolving issues related to arrears, property conditions or benefit delays. For households already experiencing homelessness, the PRS continues to provide the most immediate and flexible move- on options, helping reduce time spent in temporary accommodation and supporting rapid rehousing where affordability allows.
13. This creates a challenging dynamic: the PRS generates a significant portion of homelessness approaches yet remains central to resolving them. Sustained engagement with landlords, improved tenancy sustainment support, incentives to maintain tenancies and targeted financial assistance are therefore essential components of the local approach. Ensuring that the PRS can continue to operate as a viable prevention and relief pathway; while mitigating the factors that cause homelessness within it; remains a critical priority for the Council and its partners.

Further details on the Review of Homelessness in BCP provided in Appendix B.

Homewards, The BCP Homelessness Partnership and its role

14. BCP is one of six national Homewards locations, a five-year Royal Foundation programme that brings partners together to prevent homelessness and make it rare, brief and unrepeatable. Locally, Homewards strengthens our existing Homelessness Partnership by adding capacity, national expertise and funded activity—particularly around youth homelessness, early intervention and lived-experience involvement. Its work sits within our partnership governance and directly informs the development and delivery of this Strategy.
15. The BCP Homelessness Partnership has been central to shaping the local response to homelessness since its establishment in 2019. Although the statutory duty to produce a Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy rests with the Council, the Strategy itself has been developed, owned and delivered through a shared partnership model. This reflects the recognition across Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole that homelessness is a system wide issue that cannot be addressed by any single organisation working alone. The Partnership brings together a wide range of statutory, voluntary, community, faith and private sector organisations, each contributing experience, insight and operational capacity to support residents who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.
16. Over time, more than 45 organisations have participated, representing criminal justice services, health partners, supported accommodation providers, community organisations, specialist charities, education partners, private landlords and people with lived experience. This growth has strengthened both strategic leadership and frontline collaboration.
17. The development of the new Strategy has once again been delivered through a partnership process. Engagement activities undertaken throughout 2025 brought together partners at all levels to review data, discuss challenges, identify opportunities and reflect on the learning from the current Strategy. This collective process has ensured that the draft Strategy for 2026 to 2031 is firmly rooted in shared ownership and a common vision for reducing homelessness.
18. While the Council retains legal responsibility for publishing the Strategy, it is recognised across the Partnership that its success depends on collective commitment and coordinated delivery. The Homelessness Reduction Board will continue to provide oversight, but the Strategy's implementation, impact and continuous improvement will rely on the strength of the Partnership. This collaborative approach will remain a core feature of the local response, supporting effective prevention, rapid intervention, improved health and wellbeing outcomes, and long term stability for people at risk of homelessness.

Impact of the current Strategy in BCP

19. The Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2021 to 2026 has had a significant impact across Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole. Over the past five years, the Strategy has supported meaningful progress in reducing rough sleeping, strengthening multi agency coordination, improving prevention activity and expanding the availability and quality of supported accommodation. While demand has continued to rise, the systems, partnerships and approaches developed through the Strategy have enabled more consistent and proactive responses to homelessness across the area.
20. A major achievement of the current Strategy has been the expansion of supported accommodation and the strengthening of pathways designed to meet the needs of people who have experienced rough sleeping. Between 2021 and 2025, more than 275 new supported and specialist accommodation units were delivered through programmes such as Single Homeless Accommodation Programme (SHAP) and Rough Sleeper Accommodation Programme (RSAP). These accommodation routes provided safe, stable homes for individuals with high needs and significantly contributed to reducing rough sleeping from the peak levels seen during the pandemic period. Multi agency outreach and improved case coordination have ensured better identification of people who are long term homeless and have enabled more personalised plans to support their transition away from the streets. This has helped reduce the proportion of people experiencing long term rough sleeping and has contributed to more stable and sustained outcomes for many individuals.
21. Alongside improvements in supported accommodation more broadly, the Strategy period saw the development and expansion of Somewhere Safe to Stay (SStS) provision. This has provided a critical short term accommodation pathway for people who would otherwise be at high risk of rough sleeping, especially those with multiple or intersecting needs. The availability of a safe, immediate and staffed environment has helped prevent individuals from entering rough sleeping or returning to the streets during moments of crisis. SStS has also supported stabilisation work, enabling earlier assessment and planning, improved engagement with health and support services and smoother transitions into longer term accommodation. Its role in diverting people from rough sleeping and reducing the harm associated with crisis accommodation has become an important feature of the local system, contributing to the reductions in rough sleeping seen over the Strategy period.
22. Prevention activity across the Partnership has strengthened, supported by the Strategy's emphasis on early and upstream intervention. Services such as Let's Talk Renting, youth and family prevention work, and expanded housing options triage have helped households address risks earlier, with prevention success rates consistently being around 60%, meaning around 770 households maintaining their accommodation or finding a suitable alternative. Stronger partnership working with landlords, community groups and specialist support providers has enabled more timely action around affordability pressures, relationship breakdown, property issues and health related needs. These improvements have contributed to increased consistency in prevention outcomes and enhanced the support available to those approaching services before a crisis point.

23. Improvements in multi-agency working have been a central feature of the Strategy's impact. The Homelessness Reduction Board, the BCP Homelessness Partnership and a network of specialist sub groups have created shared spaces for information exchange, problem solving and system leadership. These arrangements have strengthened relationships across health, housing, criminal justice, social care, the voluntary sector and community organisations. Collaborative work with NHS Dorset, mental health providers and substance use services has resulted in more integrated support for people with complex needs. The partnership model has been recognised nationally as an example of effective local collaboration, supporting innovation and shared responsibility across services.
24. The Strategy has also contributed to improvements in temporary accommodation management and quality, although pressures remain significant. The introduction of supported housing routes and the early adoption of housing led principles have reduced reliance on bed and breakfast accommodation for families. While the number of households in temporary accommodation remains high due to continued demand, enhanced oversight, improved allocation pathways and stronger tenancy sustainment support have helped reduce the length of stay for some groups and improve the overall experience for residents.
25. The current Strategy has also helped embed a stronger health led approach to homelessness. This has included improved pathways between hospital discharge teams and housing services, closer working with primary and community health services and a growing focus on the role of trauma, mental health and chronic health needs in driving homelessness risk. These developments have highlighted the importance of integrated health and housing solutions through neighbourhood plans in the next phase of strategic delivery.
26. Importantly, the Strategy has laid strong foundations around lived experience involvement. Through the BCP Homelessness Partnership and the lived experience sub group, people who have experienced homelessness have identified gaps in support and contributed to proposed governance structures. Their insight has influenced priorities around trauma informed practice, communication, accessibility and the quality of temporary and commissioning intentions for housing related and supported accommodation. The involvement of lived experience has become a defining feature of homelessness activity in BCP and a core expectation for future planning.
27. While significant progress has been made, demand has continued to rise across the period. Homelessness assessments increased each year, and the Council faced growing pressures linked to affordability, private rented sector instability and reductions in available housing supply. These challenges underline the value of the existing Strategy but also highlight the need for a strengthened and more targeted approach for 2026 to 2031. The learning from the current Strategy has informed the new Strategy's emphasis on earlier prevention, stronger integration with health, improved communication, increased supply of suitable accommodation and a clearer focus on reducing long term homelessness.
28. Overall, the current Strategy has delivered improvements in rough sleeping outcomes, multi-agency practice, prevention activity, supported housing supply and system leadership. It has also generated significant learning on the importance of trauma informed practice, lived experience involvement and health integration. The

new Strategy builds directly on this progress, addresses ongoing challenges and sets out the next stage of transformation needed to ensure homelessness in BCP becomes rare, brief and unrepeated.

Overview of the new Strategy

29. The learning and progress achieved through the current Strategy form a strong foundation for the next phase of homelessness prevention and response in Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole. Building on this progress, the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2026 to 2031 sets out a renewed and forward looking approach that is fully aligned with the national direction set by Government. This includes the emphasis on prevention across all public services, national commitments to reduce rough sleeping, and to the Government's recently announced national outcomes framework for homelessness and rough sleeping. The new Strategy reflects updated evidence, rising local demand, system pressures and the views of partners and people with lived experience. It provides a clear collective ambition to ensure that homelessness in BCP becomes rare, brief and unrepeated, and sets the direction for the next five years of coordinated activity.
30. **Rare** reflects a commitment to strengthen early intervention across services through trauma informed practice, youth and family prevention, recognition of hidden homelessness, health triggered early identification, better work with landlords and employers and clear and accessible communication.
31. **Brief** focuses on rapid and effective responses to homelessness through swift triage, navigation support, improved temporary accommodation standards, rapid rehousing approaches, stronger integration with health services and reduced reliance on bed and breakfast provision.
32. **Unrepeated** focuses on sustaining long term stability through proactive tenancy monitoring, wraparound support including mental and physical health services, community and peer support and improved access to training, education and employment opportunities.
33. Two cross cutting priorities support the core aims; **Change the Narrative** focuses on stigma reduction and public understanding. **Embed Lived Experience** ensures genuine involvement in governance, monitoring, service design and decision making.
34. Delivery is overseen by the Homelessness Reduction Board and the Housing Strategy Steering Group. Progress will be monitored annually and aligned with the national Local Outcomes Framework.
35. Further detail regarding the Core Aims and associated commitments can be found in Appendix A.

Engagement Overview & Public Consultation Methodology and Key Findings

36. The development of the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2026 to 2031 has been shaped through an extensive programme of engagement across Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole, followed by a formal period of public consultation. Engagement activity took place between June and November 2025 and formed a central part of the Strategy's co production approach. A total of 549 people contributed through 36 structured sessions involving a wide range of partners, residents, professionals and people with lived experience. These sessions included workshops, thematic round tables, frontline staff discussions, sessions with voluntary and community organisations, landlord engagement forums, youth engagement activities and meetings with health, probation, education and social care partners. Input from people with lived experience was particularly significant, providing detailed accounts of the emotional impact of homelessness, barriers to accessing support, experiences of trauma, the importance of consistent and compassionate communication and the need for long term stability rather than short term crisis solutions. This insight informed the shaping of the Strategy's aims and commitments and helped identify the system changes that matter most to those affected.
37. The engagement programme also highlighted priority issues relating to system coordination, gaps in specialist pathways, variation in trauma informed practice, complexities within the private rented sector, the need for stronger prevention at earlier stages, and challenges in accessing supported accommodation. Feedback emphasised the importance of improving communication between services, strengthening integration with mental health and substance use support, and ensuring that young people and families are able to access timely, clear and practical advice. Stakeholders also reinforced the value of partnership work delivered through the BCP Homelessness Partnership, recognising the benefits of shared intelligence, joint working and multi-agency problem solving.
38. Following the engagement programme, a formal public consultation took place between November 2025 and January 2026. The consultation used an online survey hosted on the Council's website, which was shared across BCP stakeholders as well as being advertised by our corporate Communications team. The consultation received a good level of engagement and demonstrated broad support for the Strategy's aims and commitments.
39. Across the consultation responses, there was strong agreement that prevention should remain the central priority, with respondents calling for earlier identification of risk, better access to timely advice and improved clarity about support pathways. Respondents also highlighted the need for stronger integration between housing, health and social care services, particularly for people with complex needs, mental health issues or substance use challenges. Many respondents emphasised the importance of improving the quality and availability of supported accommodation and reducing reliance on hotels. Others called for greater emphasis on public communication, increased efforts to challenge stigma and the need to ensure that people with lived experience remain closely involved in shaping and monitoring services.

40. Young people who participated expressed concerns about stigma, lack of accessible information, and the disruption homelessness causes to education, employment and wellbeing. Private landlords highlighted affordability issues, concerns about risk and the importance of earlier engagement to support tenancy sustainment. People with lived experience again underlined the need for compassionate, consistent and person centred practice and the importance of recognising trauma, emotional safety and long term support needs.
41. The findings from both the engagement and consultation activities have directly shaped the Strategy and informed the commitments within each core aim. The depth and breadth of insight provided through this process has ensured that the Strategy is grounded in lived experience, reflective of professional expertise and aligned with the needs and expectations of the wider community.

Further information on the public consultation can be found in Appendix C.

Summary

42. The Strategy presents a comprehensive and forward looking approach to preventing and reducing homelessness across Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole. It draws on extensive engagement, updated evidence, lived experience insight and partnership working. The detailed Delivery Plan that will support implementation of the Strategy is currently being developed through a working group of Homelessness Delivery Board members, the Board includes representation from the Council, Homewards, the VCS and Private Sectors. This process will also include Experts by Experience, reflecting the Strategy's commitment to co production at every level and stage. This approach will ensure that the Delivery Plan is rooted in operational expertise, lived insight and local priorities and that actions and measures are developed collaboratively across the Partnership. Delivery will be coordinated through established governance structures with regular monitoring and accountability. The Strategy positions BCP Council and its partners to meet future challenges and support residents effectively.

Summary of Financial Implications

43. Homelessness and rough sleeping services are funded through a combination of national grant allocations, programme-specific funding and local resources. BCP Council has received an initial three-year settlement which consolidates several previously separate grant streams while Temporary Accommodation funding has been moved into the general Revenue Support Grant, creating some complexity for medium-term planning
44. In 2025/26, the Council received around £2m in one-off additional funding which is not included in the new settlement. Excluding this, core funding remains stable but at an overall lower level than last year's resource.
45. While national programme specific funding remains available, these are not part of the consolidated core grant and therefore cannot be relied upon to support essential

baseline services. This funding risk will require monitoring by the Homelessness Delivery Board to ensure continuity of provision.

46. At this stage the strategy is not expected to create additional financial pressures within the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP). It is assumed that the new three-year settlement and existing base budget will be sufficient to support delivery. Should service demand or funding levels change significantly over the lifetime of the Strategy, the financial impact will be reviewed as part of the Council's budget monitoring and MTFP process.

Summary of Legal Implications

47. Local authorities are legally required to publish a Homelessness Strategy every five years under the Homelessness Act 2002. The Strategy must be informed by a comprehensive review of homelessness and set out how homelessness will be prevented and addressed.

Summary of Public Health Implications

48. Homelessness has substantial impacts on mental health, physical health and wellbeing. The Strategy strengthens integration with NHS Dorset, mental health services, public health teams and other partners. Health considerations are embedded across all stages of prevention, intervention and recovery.

Summary of Equality Implications

49. Homelessness affects some groups disproportionately, including young adults, women experiencing hidden homelessness, racially minoritised groups, LGBTQ plus residents and people with learning disabilities. The Strategy has been shaped with input from diverse communities, and the Equality Impact Assessment identifies actions required to ensure inclusive communication, improved access and tailored support. Our EQIA has been heard at the panel and was agreed in principle, only noting that because it was early in the development, a final version may be required to be heard again.

Further detail is contained in Appendices D and E.

Summary of Risk Assessment

50. Key risks include continued affordability pressures, limited availability of suitable homes, increased complexity of cases, pressure on temporary accommodation and partner capacity. The Strategy mitigates risks through data driven approaches, targeted prevention, stronger governance, improved pathways and co production.

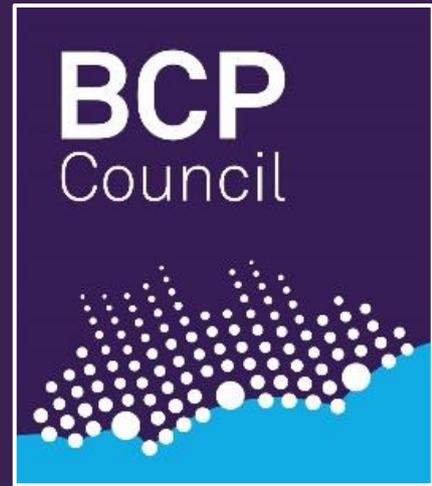
Background papers

None.

Appendices

- A. BCP Homelessness Partnership Draft Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2026-2031
- B. BCP Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy – Narrative and Evidence Base
- C. Homelessness Strategy Consultation Report
- D. EQIA Outcome form
- E. Revised EQIA

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BCP Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy

2026-2031

Foreword by Cllr Kieron Wilson – Portfolio Holder for Housing and Regulation at BCP Council

Homelessness remains one of the most significant challenges facing Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole today. Every person who reaches out for help brings with them a story shaped by pressure, uncertainty and often avoidable hardship. Our responsibility is to respond with compassion and determination, recognising that homelessness is not inevitable, and that the systems around people can – and must – work better.

This strategy has been shaped by the voices of residents, partners, and people with lived experience who have been open about what has gone wrong in the past and what needs to change for the future. Their contributions have strengthened our understanding and sharpened our focus. We have an opportunity now to work differently: to prevent homelessness wherever possible, to respond more quickly and consistently when help is needed, and to ensure that once someone has a home, they can truly sustain it.

Ending homelessness is achievable if we work together with shared ambition and accountability. I invite all services, partners, and members of our community to join us in delivering the change this strategy sets out.

Cllr Kieron Wilson
Portfolio Holder for Housing & Regulation



Foreword from our Experts by Experience

Being part of the development of this strategy has felt important, because it shows a commitment to listening. But we want this to go much further than consultation. For this strategy to make a real difference, people with lived experience need to be involved at every stage of decision-making, not just at the beginning. We should be routinely invited into conversations, updated on what is changing, and able to see evidence of what is working.

We hope to see a meaningful culture shift across BCP's homelessness services. Lived experience should not be an afterthought; it should be at the heart of shaping, governing and improving services from day one. Co-production should be genuine, equal, and built on trust. We want to work alongside professionals, bringing insights that only we can offer, and helping to set the agenda rather than just reacting to it.



It is also important to acknowledge that the trauma of homelessness does not end when someone receives a set of keys. For many people, the emotional, psychological, and practical impact lasts long after they are housed. This affects how people engage with services, how they trust, and how they cope with day-to-day challenges. These experiences matter — not only to us, but to many others who remain unheard. Real solutions will only come from working with people, not around them.

Shelter Coproduction Group
BCP Homelessness Partnership

Our Vision

Our vision is for homelessness in Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole to become rare, brief and unrepeated. We want everyone to have a safe, secure place to call home.

This strategy sets out how we will work as a system to prevent homelessness wherever possible, respond quickly and effectively when someone is at risk, and ensure that people can remain safely housed with the right support. The strategy reflects what we have learned through data and insight as well as through extensive engagement; including from people who have personal experience of homelessness, from our workforce and from the organisations working tirelessly across our communities to help people in housing crisis.

Our Strategic Approach



Our focus begins long before someone loses their home. Prevention means recognising early signs of risk and acting quickly—whether that involves working with landlords, supporting families through crisis, or intervening when someone’s health, income or relationships are under strain.

In BCP this approach is especially important. The area faces a combination of high private-rented sector use, significant affordability pressures, seasonal and insecure employment, and a growing number of people with complex health and wellbeing needs. These local factors increase the risk of homelessness and mean that early, proactive intervention is critical.

Our preventative approach therefore places strong emphasis on working closely with landlords, improving access to stable accommodation, and supporting households whose finances or living arrangements are vulnerable to sudden change. Strengthening partnerships with health, education, social care, communities and the voluntary sector is essential in BCP, where many individuals rely on multiple services and where early coordination can prevent escalation into crisis.

Prevention also means providing clear, accessible information so that people understand their rights and options—and ensuring that this is tailored to the needs of BCP’s diverse communities



When someone does become homeless or is at risk of losing their home, the way we respond matters enormously. People told us that the first conversation with a service can shape their whole experience. We are committed to making this first contact quick, compassionate and practical by training staff in trauma-informed practice, improving access routes, and ensuring clear handovers between teams so no one is left waiting or repeating their story.

We will ensure that any experience of homelessness is as short as possible by developing clear and fast pathways into suitable housing, including direct access to emergency accommodation, simplified assessment processes, and stronger coordination with landlords and supported housing providers. We will strengthen navigation support through dedicated case coordination so people can move smoothly between services, and we will embed joint working protocols so all partners understand their role and act quickly.

By reducing duplication, sharing information more effectively, and removing avoidable delays—for example through shared plans, joint meetings and clear escalation points—we will help people resolve homelessness quickly and move forward with stability.



A home is not the end of the journey. People often need ongoing and coordinated support to maintain stability, rebuild wellbeing and reconnect with their community. We will strengthen our wider and connected support by expanding tenancy sustainment activity, improving links with mental health and substance use services, growing community based support options, and increasing access to education, employment and training pathways. We will also work alongside peer based support options, and increasing access to education, employment-based support options, and increasing access to education, employment and training pathways. We will also

work alongside peer-led programmes to ensure people can be supported by others with similar experiences.

To understand whether support is working in the long term, we will improve how we record and analyse outcomes, using shared data across the partnership, regular follow-up checks, and better use of the Government's Local Outcomes Framework. This will help us identify early risks, adapt support when needed, and recognise where positive differences have been made.

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Our 5 Core Aims and Commitments

Rare – Prevent Homelessness Before It Occurs

1. Trauma Informed, Person Centred Practice → Put into place approaches that recognise and address overlapping disadvantages such as poverty, domestic abuse, neurodiversity and poor physical and mental health, reducing re-traumatisation.
2. Collaboration → Strengthen joint working with health, education, criminal justice and social care so risks are identified earlier and responses that are not jointly agreed are reduced. Clearly taking forward the Government commitment that preventing homelessness is a shared responsibility across all public services.
3. Strategic Funding Reform Advocacy → Work to influence long-term funding reform, including increasing Local Housing Allowance and securing lasting investment in prevention and temporary accommodation. -term funding reform, including
4. Youth & Family Prevention Focus → Prioritise upstream support for families, young people leaving care and those at risk of domestic abuse including VARG (Violence Against Woman & Girls).

5. Health Informed Early Intervention → Work with health partners to identify the biggest health related triggers and join up prevention pathways with emerging Neighbourhood Health Plans.
6. Private Sector Prevention Role → Work alongside private landlords and employers in early intervention efforts through forums, incentives and Corporate Social Responsibility opportunities. -intervention efforts through
7. Recognition of Hidden Homelessness → Broaden identification of nontraditional or precarious living situations, including people living in vehicles, and focusing on groups who are higher risk of being hidden such as women.-
8. Plain English & Inclusive Language → Ensure all materials and communications are accessible, stigma free and easy to understand; including for people who speak other languages or who can't read.

Brief – Minimise the Duration of Homelessness

1. Quick and Helpful First Contact → Make sure every person receives a timely, trauma aware first response that focuses on resolving their situation quickly.
2. Navigator Roles → Have a team of dedicated navigators who guide people through services, reduce duplication, and prevent repeated retelling of their story.
3. Support the national Temporary Accommodation Standards → keeping to our commitment to minimise the use of Bed & Breakfast for anybody, especially families.
4. Rapid Rehousing Models → Expand models that secure stable accommodation quickly so people spend less time in all temporary settings.
5. Reduce Long Term Rough Sleeping → creation of a BCP Homelessness Partnership plan to help those who experience street homelessness long term and prevent future instances.

6. Stronger Health Integration → Improve coordination with health services so physical, mental health and substance use needs are properly addressed as part of rapid solutions.
7. Business & Employer Partnerships → Strengthen links with employers to prevent homelessness linked to job loss, income insecurity, or workplace vulnerability.
8. Equity of Opportunity → Ensure all groups, especially those at higher risk and facing inequality or discrimination; can access appropriate support pathways when they need them.

Unrepeated – ensure Homelessness Does Not Recur

1. Strengths Based Practice → Deliver support that builds on people's strengths, goals, and lived experience to support lasting stability.
2. Peer Support Networks → Expand peer led and community-based support that reduces isolation after housing is secured, helping reduce the risk of a repeat.
3. Tenancy Sustainment Monitoring → Use proactive data tracking to identify early tenancy risks and intervene before problems get worse.
4. Health Linked Wraparound Support → Make sure mental health, physical health, and substance use support into tenancy sustainment plans.
5. Long term housing approaches → use national evidence, including from Housing First pilots, to shape our long-term stability and sustainment support

6. Employment & Skills Pathways → Grow access to employment, training and progression opportunities in partnership with local employers and national programmes.

Change The Narrative — Build Understanding, Reduce Stigma, Shift Public Perception

1. Inclusive, Person First Language → Use stigma free, respectful communication that accurately reflects people's experiences and avoids blame.
2. Public Education Campaigns → Lead targeted campaigns to challenge myths and misinformation about homelessness, build empathy, and promote a strengths-based understanding.
3. Coproduced Communications → Work with Experts by Experience to co-design written and visual materials that reflect real stories and realities.
4. Community Dialogue Spaces → Create safe spaces for public conversation, co-creation, and learning between residents, services and people with lived experience.
5. Staff Training on Inclusive Communication → Deliver training to ensure all staff understand how language, tone and framing impact dignity and engagement.
6. Monitor Narrative Shift → Track progress through community feedback, media audits and annual reporting to assess changes in public attitudes.

Embed Lived Experience — Coproduce Solutions at Every Level

1. Coproduction as Standard Practice → Integrate Experts by Experience into strategy development, service design, performance monitoring and governance from the start, not as an add on. Production as Standard Practice → Integrate Experts by Experience into strategy development, service design and system change-Production as Standard Practice → Integrate Experts by Experience into strategy development, service design
2. Safe, Supported Participation → Provide training, support and psychologically safe spaces to enable meaningful involvement.
3. Diverse Voices at the Table → Ensure representation across youth, LGBTQ+, people with disabilities, racially minoritised and other disproportionately affected groups
4. Storytelling & Feedback Loops → Collect and share stories of lived experience to inform practice and embed feedback in continuous improvement.

Delivering Change and Measuring Progress

The Homelessness Delivery Board will oversee delivery of this strategy, supported by the Housing Strategy Steering Group and with annual reporting to Cabinet. We will be open about what is working and where we need to adjust course.



Our measures of progress will include reductions in homelessness presentations and rough sleeping, shorter stays in temporary accommodation, increased tenancy sustainment, improved health and wellbeing outcomes, and stronger involvement of people with lived experience. We will also monitor how effectively partners are working together and how accessible our services are for those who need them.

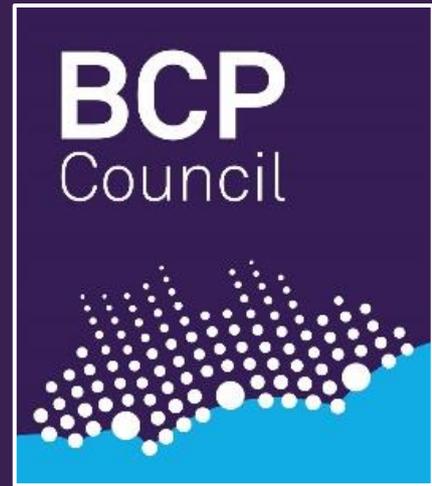
In addition, our performance framework will be aligned with the Government's new Local Outcomes Framework. This will ensure that our local monitoring fully reflects national expectations and that we are consistently measuring the outcomes that matter most. We will incorporate these indicators into our regular reporting so we can track whether the changes we are making are delivering the intended impact..

We will use data and evidence to target resources where they make the biggest difference, and our collective performance as a Partnership will be assessed against national targets for reducing homelessness. Just as importantly, we will continue to listen to those who use our services— understanding what works for them, where improvements are needed, and how we can strengthen our response.



Peoples Views

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BCP Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy – Narrative and Evidence

2026-2031

What Homelessness Means

Homelessness doesn't just mean someone sleeping on the streets. It can look very different for different people. Some may be staying outside because they have absolutely nowhere else to go. Others might be in emergency rooms or hostels for a short time while they wait for somewhere more stable. Sometimes people stay with friends or family, even when it's crowded or uncomfortable, because they have run out of options. And for some, home becomes unsafe due to violence or other serious dangers, meaning they have no choice but to leave.

At its heart, homelessness means not having a safe and secure place to call home. It can happen to anyone, especially when several difficulties like money worries, health problems, or relationship breakdowns; happen at once.



Homelessness Across England

Homelessness in England has steadily increased over the past four years, with pressures building year on year. In 2021/22, councils completed 291,620 assessments, rising sharply to 324,650 in 2022/23 and peaking at 361,160 in 2023/24. Although assessments fell slightly to 360,050 in 2024/25, the number remains significantly higher than earlier years, highlighting a sustained national rise in housing instability.

Across the same period, the number of households owed a homelessness duty also increased consistently from 279,470 in 2021/22 to 330,410 by 2024/25, demonstrating that more people are not only approaching councils but are meeting the threshold for statutory assistance.

These increases reflect wider national challenges. Private rents have risen faster than household incomes, the cost of living crisis has placed many at greater financial risk, and families face mounting pressures linked to mental health, domestic abuse, disability, and the continued instability associated with insecure private tenancies. Together, these factors have made homelessness both more common and more complex.

Temporary accommodation use has also continued to rise. By early 2025, England recorded 131,140 households living in temporary accommodation, the highest figure on record after more than two years of uninterrupted quarterly growth.

Rough sleeping shows a similar pattern. Numbers fell considerably during the pandemic due to the “Everyone In” programme, but began rising again from 2022 onwards, culminating in a 20 percent national increase by 2024. There is currently no evidence that this trend has stabilised.

Overall, the past four years show an England wide pattern of growing demand and increasingly stretched housing systems, affecting communities of all sizes.

Homelessness in the South West

The South West mirrors the national picture. Assessments have risen from 28,890 in 2021/22 to 32,110 in 2023/24, before easing slightly to 30,580 in 2024/25. The number of households owed a homelessness duty followed a similar pattern, increasing from 28,010 in 2021/22 to 29,060 in 2023/24, and then settling at 28,280 in 2024/25.

Despite the slight reduction in the most recent year, demand remains far higher than at the start of the period. This reflects sustained pressures within the region, particularly in coastal, rural, and high tourism areas where rising rents, second home ownership, and short term lets have further reduced the supply of long term housing.

Affordability has become a persistent challenge, with local incomes failing to keep pace with private sector rents or the cost of borrowing for home ownership. As a result, more households are approaching councils because they are threatened with homelessness or already homeless.

Temporary accommodation capacity remains strained across many South West authorities, with limited move on options and increasing numbers of households remaining in temporary placements for longer periods.

The region continues to face several long standing pressures linked to its housing market:

- High housing costs in coastal and tourist driven locations
- Private rented homes that are increasingly unaffordable for low income households

- A limited supply of social and lower cost rented homes

At the same time, councils are supporting more people with complex needs, including mental health issues, chronic health conditions, repeat homelessness, and other intersecting vulnerabilities.

Homelessness in Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole (BCP)

Homelessness in BCP has risen sharply over the past four years, reflecting both national pressures and distinct local challenges. In 2021/22, the council completed 2,241 assessments, rising steadily to 2,305 in 2022/23, then significantly to 2,746 in 2023/24, and reaching 2,887 assessments by 2024/25.

Across the same period, the number of households owed a homelessness duty increased from 2,221 in 2021/22 to 2,767 in 2024/25, representing a substantial rise in demand for statutory support.

Much of this increase is driven by a fast moving and highly competitive private rented sector. High rents, low availability, and frequent changes in property use or ownership have led more households to lose their accommodation or struggle to secure new tenancies. At the same time, the supply of social housing has not kept pace with local housing need, limiting the availability of affordable long term solutions.

Health related vulnerabilities including mental ill health, chronic conditions, and disability are also contributing to rising complexity, with more people presenting with overlapping needs. Income instability, particularly among younger adults and those in insecure or lower paid work, continues to increase the risk of homelessness for many households.

Who Is Most Affected?

Young adults aged 18 to 34 consistently make up a large proportion of applicants, driven by limited affordability, unstable incomes, and limited access to family support. Over time, there has been growing recognition of the disproportionate impact on ethnic minority groups and LGBTQ+ individuals, who may face additional barriers or discrimination when seeking housing.

Women remain more likely to experience hidden homelessness, staying with friends or family, relying on informal arrangements, or remaining in unsafe situations due to a lack of alternatives. Approximately 22 percent of open homelessness cases involve someone with a learning disability, highlighting the increasingly complex nature of local housing need.

Rough Sleeping in BCP

Rough sleeping in the area has also trended upwards over the four year period, with particularly sharp increases linked to wider economic pressures and the shortage of affordable accommodation. In mid 2024, rough sleeping reached its highest level,

with 193 people seen in a single month. While some individuals were encountered only briefly, often people passing through, the majority around 50 to 60 percent were long term rough sleepers facing severe and persistent challenges.

However, targeted interventions have begun to reduce rough sleeping in recent months. Expanded supported accommodation, including SHAP and RSAP provision, enhanced multi agency outreach, and more coordinated case management have all contributed to early signs of improvement.

Why Homelessness Happens

Homelessness is usually the result of several connected pressures. Financial strain, loss of accommodation, and personal or health-related crises. Common national and local causes include:

- Loss of a private tenancy (including Section 21 evictions).
- Family or friends no longer able or willing to accommodate.
- Domestic abuse.
- Eviction from supported housing.
- Homes becoming unsafe or unsuitable.

In BCP, the most common reasons for homelessness align with the national picture, with private rented sector instability, domestic abuse, unsuitable housing, and relationship breakdown featuring prominently in 2024/25 data.

The private rented sector continues to play a dual role in the local homelessness picture. The loss of a private tenancy remains one of the most common reasons for households approaching the Council for assistance, driven by affordability pressures, rising rents, Section 21 notices and increased competition for available homes. At the same time, the sector provides the largest number of opportunities for homelessness prevention and relief. Many households are able to sustain or secure accommodation through landlord negotiation, rent-related support and targeted intervention, making the private rented sector a critical component of both preventing homelessness and enabling move-on from temporary accommodation.

Support Available in BCP

BCP has a wide network of services that work together to prevent and reduce homelessness. Council Housing Options staff aim to help people understand their options early on, while outreach teams find and support people who are experiencing rough sleeping. There are services offering mental health support, help with substance use, and guidance for young people and families. Specialist teams also

work together to make sure people leaving hospitals, prisons or the asylum system are not left without somewhere safe to go.

A significant part of the local support offer is delivered through the BCP Homelessness Partnership, which brings together more than forty five organisations across the public, private, community and faith sectors. The partnership is driven by people with lived experience of homelessness, ensuring that insight from those who use services helps shape local approaches. Members include BCP Council, Dorset Police, Probation, NHS Dorset, local universities, housing providers and a wide range of charities, making the partnership central to how the area responds to homelessness.

Support is available across many different pathways in BCP. St Mungo's leads street outreach, responding to concerns about individuals sleeping rough and helping people access safe accommodation and ongoing support. Community organisations such as Faithworks provide practical help including food, clothing, community meals and tailored one to one support, while also linking people into statutory services.

Preventing homelessness is a major focus. The Let's Talk Renting service offers advice for private tenants struggling with rent arrears, poor property conditions, notices, disputes with landlords or wider cost of living pressures. Housing Options also provides early advice for families, single people and young adults who may be at risk of losing their home. These prevention pathways are increasingly important as assessments and duties in BCP have risen significantly in recent years and the end of a private rented tenancy continues to be the leading cause of homelessness locally.

Demand has grown not only in volume but also in complexity. Our recent review shows that many households present with multiple overlapping support needs, including mental health difficulties, substance use, domestic abuse, chronic health conditions and learning disabilities. Young adults aged 18 to 34 make up more than half of those owed a homelessness duty, and family homelessness has increased in line with regional and national trends.

Recent operational improvements have resulted in a reduction in the number of families placed in unsuitable bed and breakfast accommodation. Strengthened placement processes, earlier prevention activity and increased access to interim and supported accommodation have contributed to fewer family households requiring B&B, and where it is used, the duration of stay has reduced. This reflects a sustained focus on minimising disruption to children, safeguarding family wellbeing and improving the overall quality of temporary accommodation.

Partnership working allows services to respond to these needs in a coordinated way. Multi agency casework, shared planning and joint outreach ensure that people receive the right support at the right time. Alongside emergency and temporary accommodation, organisations across BCP offer skills training, budgeting support,

employment help and community activities that support recovery, wellbeing and long term stability.

Community involvement is also an important part of the local response. Public events and awareness campaigns help connect people with services while encouraging residents to support homelessness prevention. The Change for Good initiative provides a safe way for people to donate to a central fund used by partner organisations to help individuals rebuild their lives.

Development of this Strategy

This strategy has been developed through a comprehensive review of homelessness and housing related evidence across Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole. The review brought together detailed analysis of local homelessness data, population trends, service performance and pressures across key pathways. This included five year trends in assessments, prevention and relief duties, main duty decisions, temporary accommodation use and rough sleeping levels. The evidence showed significant increases in homelessness approaches, a rise in early prevention activity, changes in statutory decisions, increased use of temporary accommodation and a peak in rough sleeping levels in 2024, with more recent reductions linked to targeted interventions.

The review also examined wider system activity including the operation of the private rented sector, the provision and suitability of supported and specialist accommodation, youth homelessness patterns, the impact of the cost of living and sustained pressures arising from the ending of Assured Shorthold Tenancies. This analysis highlighted the continued contraction of the private rented market, increasing length of stay in temporary accommodation and the growing impact of people being required to leave Home Office accommodation.

Alongside the analytical review, the strategy has been shaped by an extensive programme of engagement. Between June and November 2025, 549 people participated in 36 engagement activities, including workshops, group sessions, away days and thematic discussions. This included frontline housing staff, voluntary and community sector partners, health and social care services, community safety partners, Probation, education professionals, councillors and senior leaders, private landlords and a broad range of community and specialist groups.

Central to the engagement was the contribution of people with lived experience of homelessness. They shared insights on the importance of safe, decent and stable housing, the emotional impact of homelessness, the effect of stigma, challenges within temporary accommodation, difficulties accessing consistent support and the need for services to be more trauma informed, responsive and person centred.

Frontline staff and partners identified the need for clearer coordination across services, stronger communication, improved pathways between housing, health and

social care, earlier identification of risk and greater consistency in how support is delivered. They also highlighted challenges such as short-term funding, staffing pressures, gaps in specialist provision, variation in the quality of temporary accommodation, pressures within the private rented sector and the need to further strengthen prevention and tenancy sustainment.

Young people, including those engaged through the Youth Forum and SPACE Youth Project, raised concerns about stigma, disruption to education and wellbeing, experiences of discrimination, barriers in accessing health and housing services and the need for better early prevention and support within schools and youth settings. Private landlords contributed perspectives on affordability, perceptions of risk, the impact of legislative change and the value of early engagement to help sustain tenancies.

Together, the review evidence and engagement feedback created a clear and shared understanding of local needs, pressures and opportunities. This has ensured the strategy reflects the realities of homelessness across Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole, is grounded in the insights of people who use and deliver services, and is shaped by the collective ambition of partners and communities to achieve meaningful and sustainable change.

In developing this strategy, careful consideration was given to the wider legislative and policy landscape that shapes both local demand and the way homelessness services must operate. This includes major reforms to the private rented sector through the Renters Reform Act 2025, changes to welfare policy affecting affordability and household stability, and new regulatory requirements for supported housing. These national changes are expected to influence how easily people can keep their homes, how quickly accommodation becomes available, and the level of support that councils and partners need to provide.

The strategy has also been aligned with key local frameworks that shape how services work together across housing, health and wellbeing. These include:

- The BCP Housing Strategy
- The Domestic Abuse and Safe Accommodation Strategy
- The NHS Dorset Integrated Care Board Joint Forward Plan
- The Dorset Integrated Care Partnership Strategy
- The BCP Health and Wellbeing Board priorities
- Emerging Specialist Housing Strategy

Together, these plans set the direction for prevention, early help, integrated health and housing responses and the development of new and appropriate accommodation pathways. Aligning this strategy with these wider plans ensures a consistent, whole-system approach to reducing homelessness and rough sleeping.

In addition, the strategy reflects the Government's most recent national homelessness strategy, which sets out expectations around prevention, rapid

response, and reducing rough sleeping. The approach has been shaped by the latest national funding settlement for homelessness and rough sleeping services, which determines the resources available locally and the areas where councils and partners are expected to prioritise improvement and system change over the coming years.

What the New Strategy Will Do

The strategy has clear aims: to make homelessness rare, brief, and unrepeatable. To change the narrative around homelessness and to work alongside those who've experienced it.

This means preventing homelessness before it happens where possible, acting quickly and kindly when people need help, and supporting people so they don't become homeless again.

The strategy focuses on five key areas. First, it aims to identify risks earlier, especially for young people and families. Second, it wants to make sure people get fast, compassionate help when they reach out. Third, it commits to helping people stay housed by offering ongoing support for health, wellbeing, and money. Fourth, it encourages everyone to use respectful language and work to reduce stigma. Finally, it centres the voices of people with lived experience, involving them in shaping and improving services.

What Success Looks Like

If this strategy is successful, fewer people across Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole will face the risk of homelessness. When people do need help, they will receive timely and effective support so that any experience of homelessness is brief, safe and does not repeat. People will spend less time in temporary accommodation or sleeping rough, and more will be supported into stable, long-term homes where they can rebuild their lives. Over time, this will contribute to better health, wellbeing and financial security for individuals, families and communities.

Success will also be reflected in how well different services work together. When housing, health, social care, voluntary and community partners coordinate around the needs of the person, homelessness becomes both less likely to occur and easier to resolve. Stronger joint working, clearer pathways, and earlier intervention will be key indicators of progress.

In defining success, this strategy is aligned with the Government's Local Outcomes Framework for Homelessness and Rough Sleeping. This means tracking improvements not only in reduced homelessness and rough sleeping, but also in the quality and stability of accommodation, the effectiveness of prevention, the wellbeing and safety of those we support, and the strength of local partnership working. These

outcomes will be used to guide our activity and measure the impact of this strategy over time.

Summary

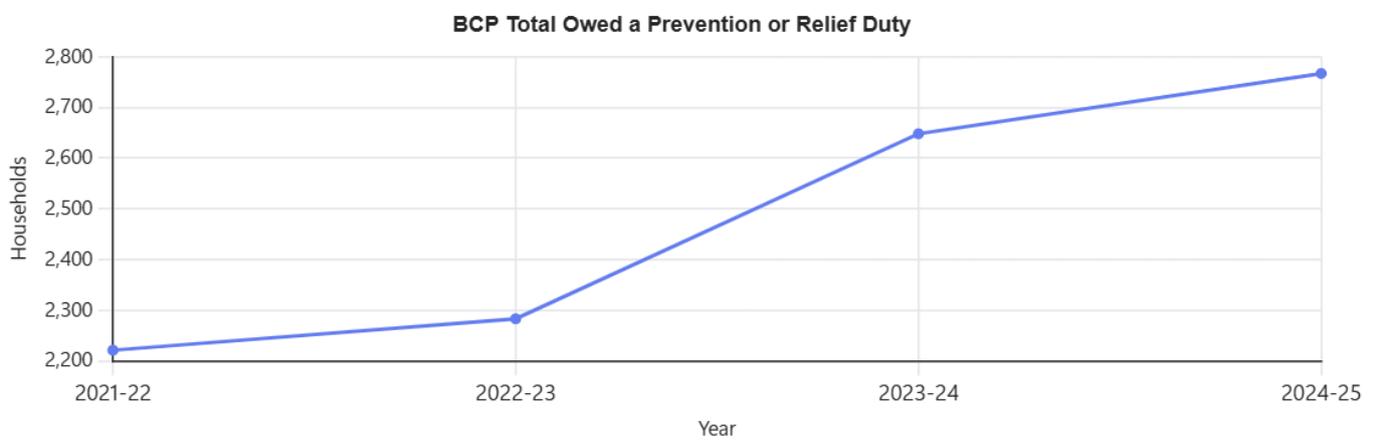
Homelessness affects many people across England, the South West, and here in Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole. It has many causes and often affects people already facing difficult circumstances. Rising housing costs, personal crises, health challenges and limited availability of affordable homes all contribute to growing demand for support.

The BCP Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy sets out a clear and hopeful vision: to make homelessness rare, brief and unrepeatable. It focuses on early help, responding quickly and compassionately when people need support, and ensuring that people can move into stable homes where they can rebuild their lives. Central to this approach is the involvement of people with lived experience and strong partnership working across housing, health, social care, the voluntary and community sector and wider public services.

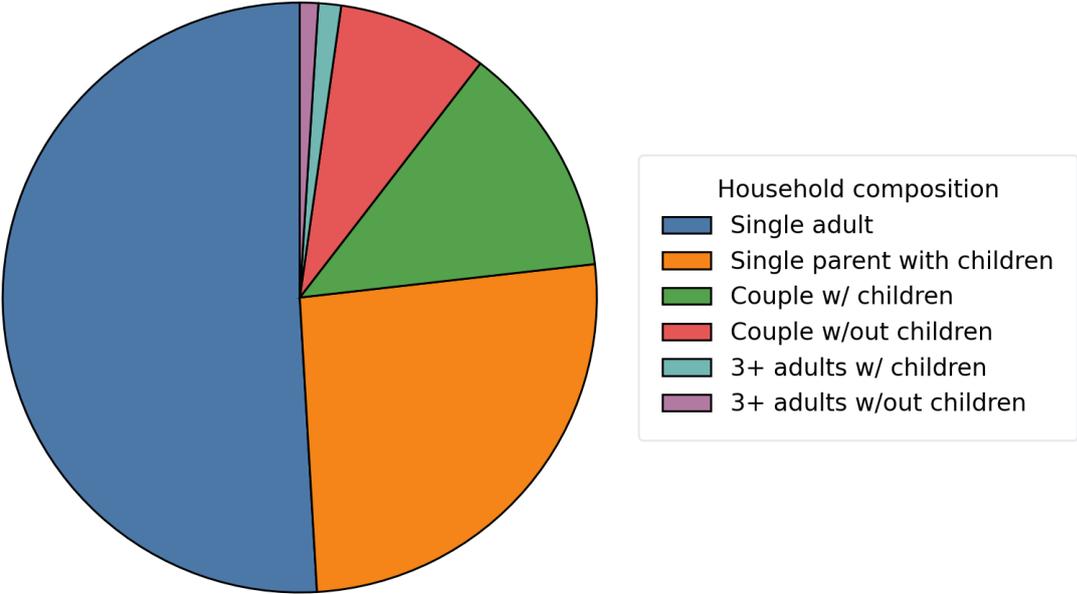
The strategy also recognises the importance of the wider national context. It aligns with the Government's Local Outcomes Framework for Homelessness and Rough Sleeping and will track progress in areas such as reduced homelessness, improved housing stability, better health and wellbeing, and more coordinated support across services.

By working together, using evidence, and listening to those most affected, BCP aims to build a future in which homelessness is less likely to happen and when it does, people receive the right help at the right time.

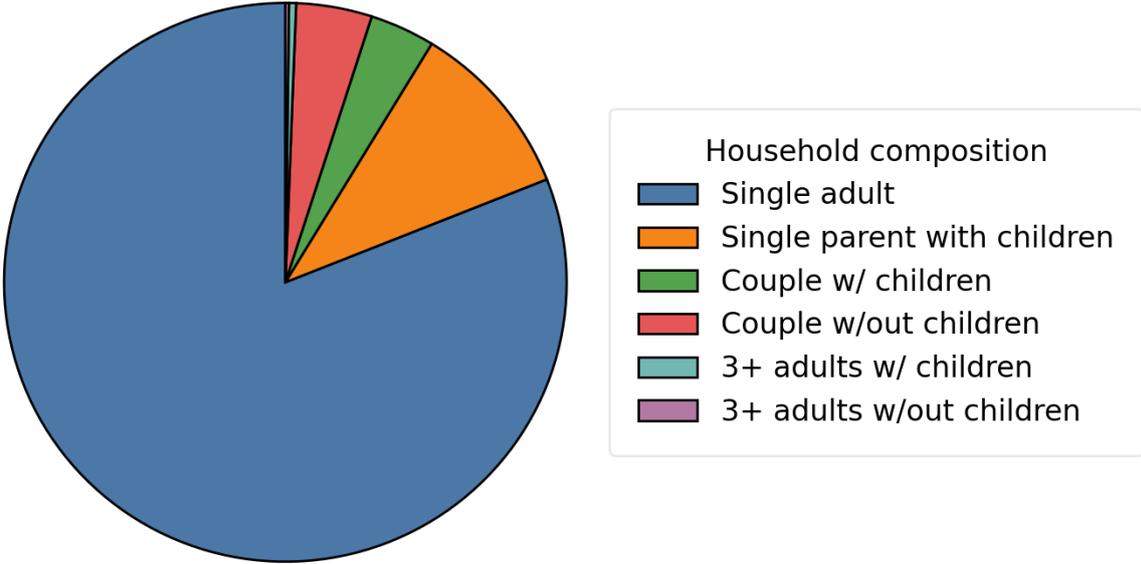
Statistics from the review of homelessness in BCP



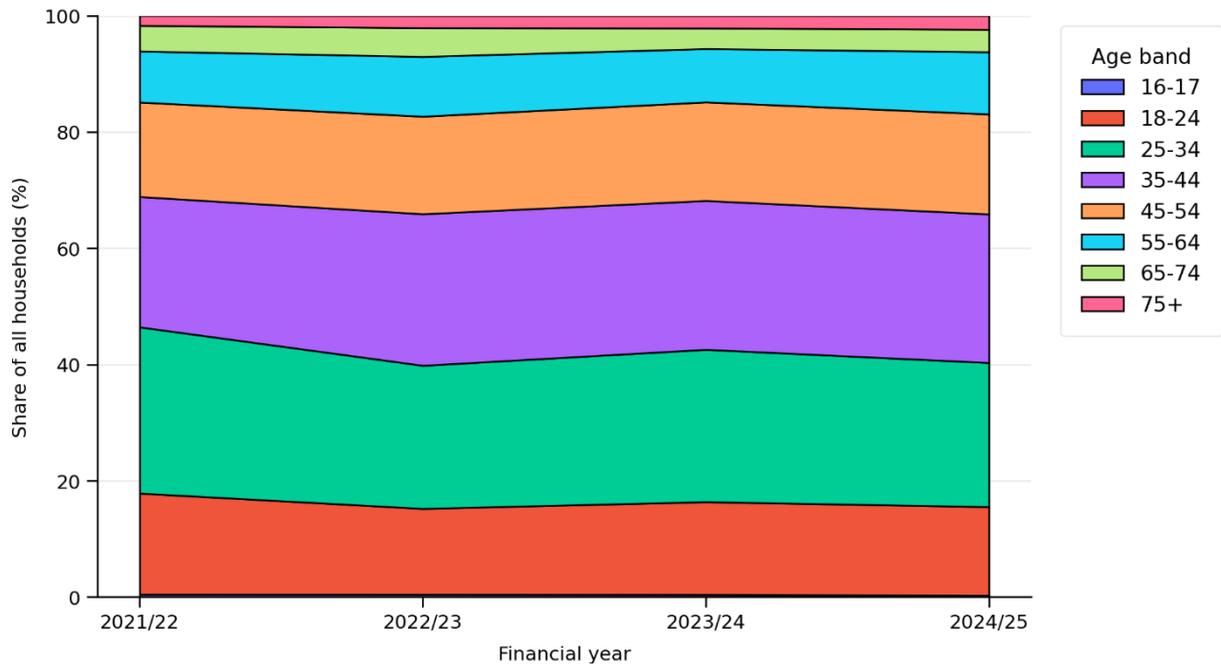
BCP 2024/25 - Prevention Duty



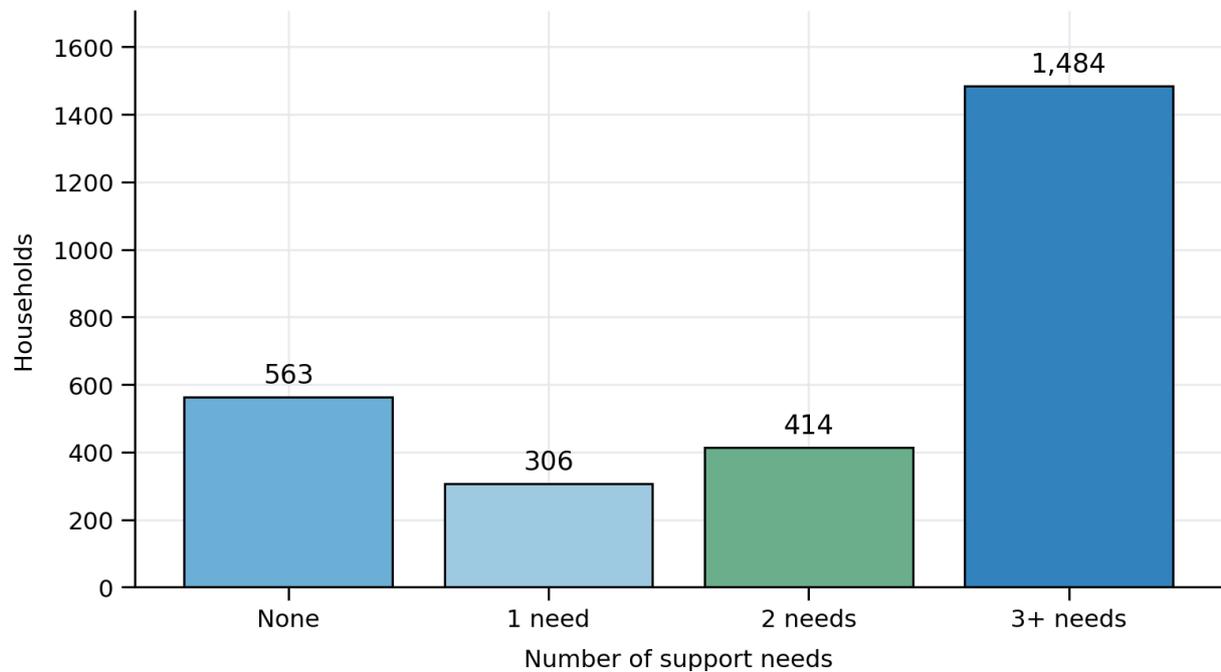
BCP 2024/25 - Relief Duty



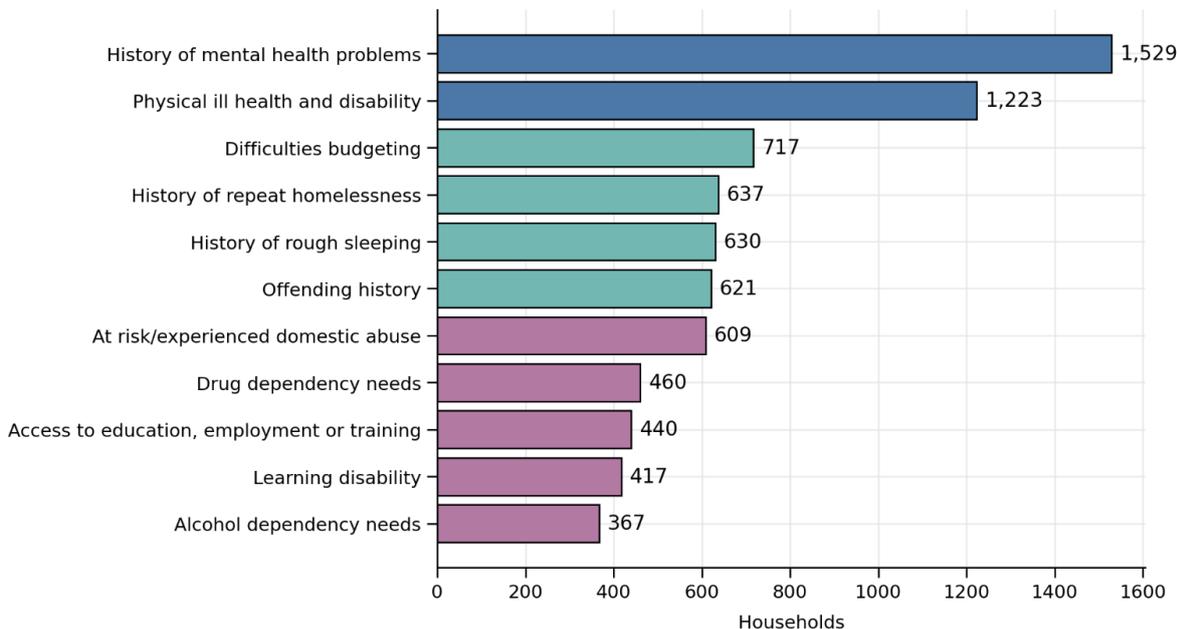
BCP - Age Profile Share (100%), 2021/22 to 2024/25



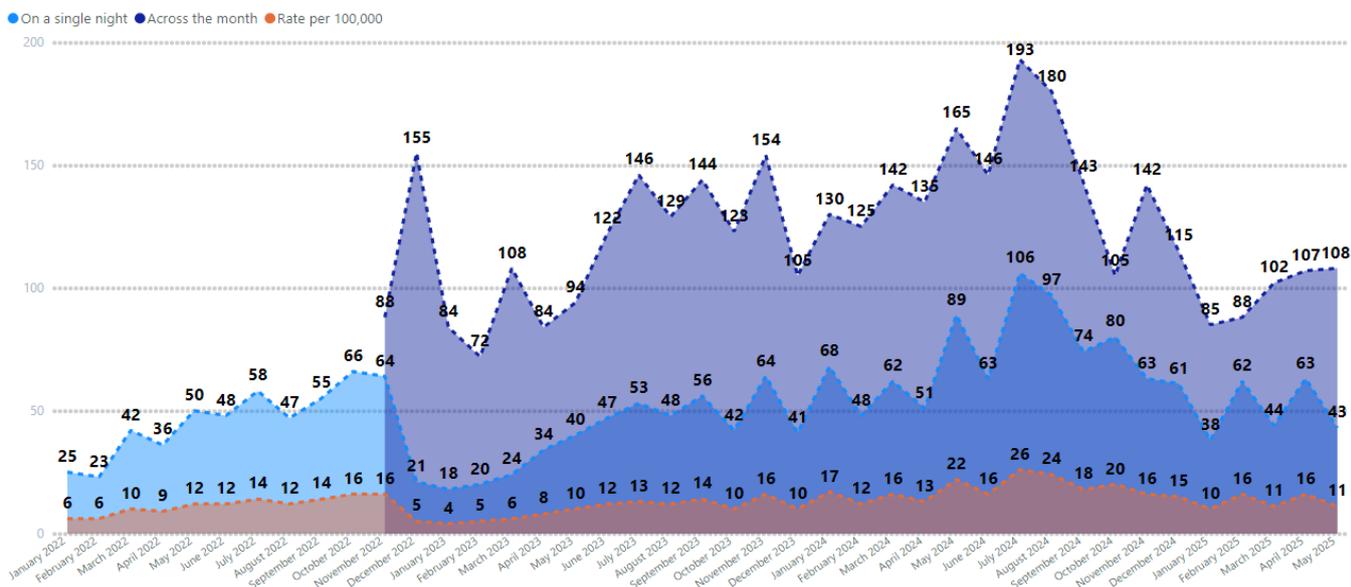
BCP 2024/25 - Households by Number of Support Needs



BCP 2024/25 - Top Support Needs (Households with each need)



Number of people sleeping Rough in BCP



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Homelessness Strategy 2026

- **Project:** Homelessness Strategy 2026-2031
- **Period:** 13 November 2025 -5 February 2026

Report summary

The Draft Homelessness Strategy 2026-2031 document highlights the extent of homelessness nationally and in the BCP Council area and highlights the support and partnerships currently in place to support those experiencing homelessness. It also shows the progress made towards the Aims and Commitments in the previous strategy.

The draft strategy sets out a new set of Core Aims, each with a set of Commitments and it is these Aims and Commitments that were the focus of the consultation. In total, 165 responses were received and there was a good level of agreement for all of the proposed Core Aims and Commitments. This report includes AI generated summary of the open comments.

The consultation ran for 12 weeks from 13 November 2025 to 5 February 2026.

Visitors

Throughout the survey period, the

Visitor timeline

Visitors i	Visits i	Visit duration	Pageviews per visit
1709	2205	00:02:13	1.94



Participants timeline

Total participants

165

Participation rate ⓘ

10%



Project results

The first three Core Aims, to ensure that homelessness is Rare, Brief and Unrepeated, were strongly supported with more than 90% of respondents stating that they Agree or Strongly Agree.

Support for Core Aims 4 and 5 was still strong (more than 80% Agree / Strongly agree) but slightly less so than the first three aims, with more neutral responses.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following core aims proposed in the Draft Homelessness Strategy?

164/165 - Matrix - optional

	1- Strongly agree	2- Agree	3- Neutral	4- Disagree	5- Strongly disagree	6- Don't know
Core Aim 1: Rare – Prevent Homelessness Before It Occurs	73.62%	19.63%	4.29%	1.23%	1.23%	0%
Core Aim 2: Brief – Minimise the Duration of Homelessness	71.88%	21.25%	3.75%	1.88%	1.25%	0%
Core Aim 3: Unrepeated – Ensure Homelessness Does Not Recur	69.57%	25.47%	1.24%	0.62%	3.11%	0%
Core Aim 4: Change the Narrative – Foster Empathy, Understanding, and Action	58.28%	22.7%	11.04%	1.84%	4.91%	1.23%
Core Aim 5: Embed Lived Experience – Co-Produce Solutions at Every Level	56.17%	28.4%	10.49%	2.47%	2.47%	0%

Respondents who disagreed with any of the Core Aims were asked to tell us why.

A recurring theme is the lack of suitable accommodation options, particularly for those seeking "dry" or abstinent environments, with respondents highlighting that current provision does not meet the needs of people in recovery, often resulting in relapse and a return to homelessness. There is also strong criticism of the inflexibility and rigidity of homelessness services, which are seen as overly process-driven and not sufficiently person-centred.

Respondents note that high thresholds for being recognised as having a “priority need” exclude many vulnerable individuals from support until they reach crisis point, and that accommodation offered often does not match individual needs in terms of safety, location, or stability, leading to repeat homelessness.

Overall, the most common concerns are the lack of appropriate accommodation and the need for more flexible, individualised support.

Core Aim 1: Rare - Prevent Homelessness Before It Occurs

There is a good level of agreement with all of the Core Aim 1 Commitments; all have at least 75% of respondents who either agree or strongly agree.

Cross-Sector Collaboration has the highest level of strong agreement. Private Sector Prevention Role and Recognition of Non-Traditional Living Situations have the lowest level of agreement. While disagreement with these aims is slightly higher than other aims, the main difference is in the proportion of neutral responses.

Core Aim 1 - Commitments

162/165 - Matrix - optional

	1- Strongly agree	2- Agree	3- Neutral	4- Disagree	5- Strongly disagree	6- Don't know
System Change & Multiple Disadvantage	59.87%	25.48%	10.83%	1.91%	1.91%	0%
Cross-Sector Collaboration	67.5%	18.75%	10%	1.88%	1.88%	0%
Strategic Advocacy for Funding Reform	56.88%	23.75%	13.75%	3.75%	1.88%	0%
Youth and Family Focus	58.97%	22.44%	16.03%	0.64%	1.92%	0%
Health-Informed Prevention	62.66%	23.42%	9.49%	1.27%	2.53%	0.63%
Private Sector Prevention Role	47.77%	27.39%	19.75%	1.91%	3.18%	0%
Recognition of Non-Traditional Living Situations	49.37%	27.85%	15.19%	3.8%	3.8%	0%
Plain English & Inclusive Language	63.29%	21.52%	7.59%	4.43%	2.53%	0.63%

Summary of comments about Core Aim 1

Several respondents highlighted the need for clearer, plain English in the strategy, noting that the current language is difficult to understand and sometimes contradictory, especially given the stated aim of inclusivity and clarity. There was also concern that focusing too much on inclusive language and political correctness could hinder open discussion about homelessness.

Engagement with landlords and the private rented sector was a recurring theme. Respondents suggested adopting initiatives like a Good Landlord Charter and working more closely with landlords to improve renting standards and prevent homelessness. There was also concern that recent renters' rights reforms might unintentionally increase homelessness by making landlords more risk-averse.

The importance of addressing mental health, addiction, and substance misuse as key factors in homelessness was mentioned several times, with calls for greater involvement of frontline outreach groups and charities that specialise in these areas.

Some respondents questioned the effectiveness of current emergency accommodation measures, such as SWEP, and suggested more innovative or practical solutions for temporary housing, including repurposing shipping containers.

There were also comments about the need for healthier food donations to homeless shelters and foodbanks and a suggestion to ensure that council-owned companies and partners are not contributing to homelessness among their tenants.

Overall, the main trends were calls for clearer communication, better landlord engagement, more focus on mental health and addiction, and practical improvements to temporary accommodation and support services.

Core Aim 2: Brief - Minimise the Duration of Homelessness

There is good support for all of the commitments under Core Aim 2. In particular, 'First Contact Counts' has over 90% of respondents saying they either agree or strongly agree.

None of the suggested commitments has significant levels of disagreement.

Core Aim 2 - Commitments

160/165 - Matrix - optional

	1- Strongly agree	2- Agree	3- Neutral	4- Disagree	5- Strongly disagree
First Contact Counts	69.62%	22.15%	5.06%	1.9%	1.27%
Navigator Roles & Service Finder Tools	51.27%	34.18%	11.39%	1.27%	1.9%
Rapid Rehousing Pathways	60.13%	27.85%	8.86%	0.63%	2.53%
Health Integration Expansion	56.33%	31.65%	9.49%	0%	2.53%
Business-Supported Navigation	44.87%	34.62%	17.95%	1.28%	1.28%
Equity of Opportunity	52.83%	29.56%	10.69%	1.89%	5.03%

Summary of comments about Core Aim 2

Respondents most frequently highlighted the need for more effective, flexible, and tailored housing solutions, with an emphasis on long-term tenancy sustainment and collaboration with landlords and support services. Several called for a clearer, more joined-up approach across departments, with a single point of contact for homeless individuals or families to navigate the system more easily. There was also a call for the adoption of proven models like Housing First, rather than vague commitments to “developing something like it”.

The issue of local connection criteria was divisive: some respondents argued for prioritising local homeless residents while others felt that local connection should not determine who receives support, advocating for a more needs-based approach.

Business engagement was seen as important for supporting long-term stability, with suggestions to encourage local businesses to help reintegrate homeless people into productive roles. The need to reintroduce homeless people into society was also mentioned.

Some respondents wanted more focus on reducing time spent sleeping rough, rather than just time in temporary accommodation. There was also a call for increased pet-friendly accommodation to prevent people from having to choose between a roof and their pets.

A few responses expressed confusion or scepticism about the strategy’s language and actual actions and one highlighted the need for a reliable contact point for those at risk of homelessness, rather than relying on overstretched GPs.

There were also isolated comments reflecting frustration about the use of hotels for non-UK nationals instead of local homeless people.

Core Aim 3: Unrepeated - Ensure Homelessness Does Not Recur

Again there is a very good level of agreement in this section, with more than 80% of respondents in agreement and fewer than 5% disagreement for every one of the commitments listed.

The highest proportion of 'strongly agree' is for 'Health-Linked Wraparound Support' at 60%. However, combining 'Strongly agree' and 'Agree' shows 'Employment and Business Engagement' as having the highest proportion of overall agreement at 92%

Core Aim 3 - Commitments

159/165 - Matrix - optional

	1- Strongly agree	2- Agree	3- Neutral	4- Disagree	5- Strongly disagree	6- Don't know
Strengths-Based & Story-Informed Approaches: Design services that build on individual strengths and are informed by lived experience narratives.	52.83%	32.7%	10.06%	2.52%	1.26%	0.63%
Peer Support & Community Integration	55.06%	32.28%	8.23%	2.53%	1.9%	0%
Longitudinal Tracking:	48.73%	33.54%	13.29%	1.9%	2.53%	0%
Health-Linked Wraparound Support:	60.38%	27.67%	7.55%	1.89%	2.52%	0%
Employment and Business Engagement	56.05%	35.67%	7.01%	0%	1.27%	0%
Employment & Opportunity Pathways	57.59%	32.91%	7.59%	0%	1.27%	0.63%
Co-Production at Every Level	52.87%	31.21%	13.38%	1.91%	0.64%	0%

Summary of comments about Core Aim 3

Respondents most frequently highlighted the need for improved wrap-around care and support, noting that current provision is lacking and must be strengthened. Mental health and substance abuse were repeatedly identified as major barriers, with calls for clear, separate strategies to address these issues within homeless accommodation, to prevent negative impacts on others and reduce returns to the streets. Financial inclusion, income maximisation, and clear discharge planning from health services were also mentioned as important.

Some respondents suggested practical solutions such as using volunteering as a pathway to employment, providing training and references and ensuring accommodation accepts pets, recognising their importance to people experiencing homelessness. There were also calls for realistic expectations and clarity on what is actually being done, with some expressing confusion or frustration at jargon and lack of clear action. A few respondents expressed general support or offered to discuss previous suggestions in more detail.

Core Aim 4: Change the Narrative - Foster Empathy, Understanding and Action

While agreement with the Core Aim 4 Commitments is less strong than for previous ones, agreement is still above 75% for all commitments in this section.

The last two commitments listed, 'Create spaces for community dialogue and participatory workshops' and 'Monitor progress through feedback, media audits and annual reporting' have the lowest proportion of 'strongly agree' but have the highest proportion of overall agreement at 80% and 81% respectively.

Core Aim 4 - Commitments

160/165 - Matrix - optional

	1- Strongly agree	2- Agree	3- Neutral	4- Disagree	5- Strongly disagree	6- Don't know
Use inclusive, person-first language in all communications.	53.5%	25.48%	13.38%	2.55%	5.1%	0%
Co-produce visual and written materials with Experts by Experience.	49.37%	28.48%	13.29%	3.16%	5.06%	0.63%
Lead public education campaigns to challenge myths and promote understanding.	54.78%	22.93%	13.38%	3.18%	5.73%	0%
Deliver staff training on inclusive communication and unconscious bias.	53.46%	25.79%	11.95%	1.89%	6.29%	0.63%
Create spaces for community dialogue and participatory workshops.	44.65%	35.22%	12.58%	2.52%	5.03%	0%
Monitor progress through feedback, media audits, and annual reporting.	45.86%	35.03%	13.38%	1.91%	3.82%	0%

Summary of comments about Core Aim 4

Many respondents expressed concerns about the effectiveness and focus of Core Aim 4, with several questioning whether current efforts actually reduce homelessness or simply result in wasted public money and resources. There is a recurring theme that more emphasis should be placed on measurable outcomes rather than language, inclusivity training, or bureaucratic processes.

Funding and cost implications were also highlighted, with calls to ensure resources are directed towards directly helping homeless people rather than administrative functions. Some respondents felt the consultation process itself was too narrow and did not allow for genuine input.

On the positive side, a few respondents supported the inclusion of community collaboration and public education, noting its importance for stability and changing perceptions. There were also suggestions to expand efforts to better represent and engage diverse and marginalised groups, such as asylum seekers and refugees, through targeted campaigns, inclusive co-production, and accessible materials.

Additional ideas included improving education about homelessness among senior school children and providing staff training on pet-friendly hostels and the importance of animal bonds for homeless individuals.

Overall, the most common themes were scepticism about the strategy's practical impact, concerns about funding priorities, and calls for more direct, measurable action. There was also some support for greater inclusivity and education, particularly around marginalised groups and community engagement.

Core Aim 5: Embed Lived Experience - Co-Produce Solutions at Every Level

A good level of agreement again for all the commitments under Core Aim 5. The lowest level of overall agreement is for 'Ensure diversity of representation' at 71%. This commitment is the only one in the draft strategy with over 10% disagreement, though this is still a very low level of disagreement.

The highest level of agreement is for 'Integrate lived experience into staff training' at 84%.

Core Aim 5 - Commitments

161/165 - Matrix - optional

	1- Strongly agree	2- Agree	3- Neutral	4- Disagree	5- Strongly disagree	6- Don't know
Establish a Lived Experience Advisory Panel to guide implementation and evaluation.	52.5%	25%	14.37%	3.13%	5%	0%
Ensure diversity of representation.	48.43%	22.64%	18.87%	4.4%	5.66%	0%
Provide safe spaces, training, and support for participation.	50.93%	32.3%	13.04%	0.62%	3.11%	0%
Embed lived experience involvement in monitoring and accountability frameworks.	48.43%	33.96%	10.69%	3.14%	3.77%	0%
Collect and share stories of difference to inform service design and public education.	48.43%	30.82%	12.58%	3.14%	5.03%	0%
Integrate lived experience into staff training, recruitment, and service evaluation.	53.13%	31.25%	10%	1.25%	4.38%	0%

30

Summary of comments about Core Aim 5

Respondents frequently emphasised the importance of genuine diversity and representation, with several calling for meaningful involvement of marginalised groups, including asylum seekers, refugees, and LGBTQ+ individuals. There is a strong preference for merit-based selection and removing structural barriers, rather than relying on quotas or “tick box” approaches.

Several responses stress the need for service users to be directly involved in designing services and for a narrative shift towards omnichannel engagement. Suggestions include providing culturally competent participation, trauma-informed spaces, and tailored training for those with lived experience, especially refugees and asylum seekers.

A minority of respondents expressed scepticism about the strategy’s practical impact, questioning its complexity, clarity, and effectiveness for homeless people. One respondent simply described the aim as “Excellent”.

Overall, the most common themes are calls for authentic, inclusive representation and involvement, and concerns about avoiding tokenism and unnecessary complexity.

Summary of overall comments

Respondents were asked if they had any further comments about the Draft Strategy.

Many respondents expressed frustration with the consultation process, feeling it is ineffective and that the council does not listen to feedback, suggesting instead that BCP should work more closely with experienced homelessness charities. There is a strong call for more compassionate, individualised, and optimistic support from housing officers, with an emphasis on not discriminating against people due to their life challenges.

Several responses highlight the need for more direct engagement with homeless people and ensuring that nobody is left without support. Mental health, addiction, and complex needs are frequently mentioned as requiring more tailored interventions.

A recurring theme is the inadequacy of “sticking plaster” or short-term solutions, with multiple respondents advocating for the construction of more council or social housing as a long-term fix. There is also concern that recent legislative changes, such as the new renters bill, may worsen homelessness in the short term.

Some respondents feel the strategy is comprehensive and well-researched but others criticise it for being full of “corporate speak” and lacking clarity or conviction. There are also calls for clearer information on timescales and more specific actions.

Additional points raised include the need for more support for homeless veterans prioritising immediate pathways for those homeless due to abuse or domestic violence and separating the issues of homelessness from drug-related anti-social behaviour. There are also suggestions for increased police or community worker presence to address anti-social behaviour and begging.

Finally, there is an offer from the community to help build accommodation and a desire for better collaboration with the council.

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EIA Panel Review



EIA being reviewed	Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy	
EIA presented by	Fraser Nicholson	
Date	30 th July 2025	
Panel members present	Jon Cockeram Leigh Hayler Sarah McLaren	
Aspect	RAG Rating	Comments
Timeliness Is this EIA timely? i.e. considered before any decisions have been made		This is very timely. You have brought it to the panel during the engagement phase while the strategy has not yet been written. It's great to see how equalities are informing the strategy from the very beginning.
Proportionate Is this EIA proportionate to the decision? i.e. is a full action plan needed?		A form 1 is proportionate to the decision being made.
Protected Characteristics Have the experiences of different groups been considered?		<p>In the 'needs and experiences' section, you don't articulate the specific needs of specific groups. It was clear from the presentation that you have this knowledge, but this needs to be specified in the form so the EIA can be a standalone document read by anyone with any level of prior knowledge.</p> <p>In the 'positive impacts' section, it is important to add more of the explanation of how you will ensure the positive impacts occur. For example, how will you allow for better and quicker options</p>

		<p>for people with mobility challenges?</p> <p>It is important to show that all protected characteristics have been considered even if they are not relevant to the EIA. At the end of 'different experiences' section, please add a phrase 'all other protected characteristics have been considered, and no other needs and experiences have been identified' to show that the PSED has been complied with.</p>
<p>Evidence Has evidence been used to draw conclusions?</p>		<p>You have included good levels of data that has informed the EIA – this is great to see.</p> <p>However, please ensure that the data is presented in the 'client base' section of the EIA.</p>
<p>Mitigating Actions Where necessary, have reasonable adjustments been proposed?</p>		<p>Due to the fact that you are so early on in the strategy development, some negative impacts and mitigating actions may be unknown at this stage.</p> <p>An EIA is a live document, so as the strategy develops, so should the EIA. The potential negative impacts and mitigating actions should be updated when they are identified.</p>
<p>Summary Does the summary provide the following?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An overview of equality considerations both positive and negative • The rationale for drawing these conclusions • Detail required mitigating actions. 		<p>Your summary is excellent and links back to equalities really well. It also summarises the whole EIA document well, meaning that someone could pick up the summary and understand the EIA – this is great to see.</p>

<p>Overall rating</p>		<p>Please include a bit more information at the start of the EIA to explain what the strategy will do. Even if you state that you are early on in the process include the intention of the strategy, that would allow the document to be read as a standalone document.</p> <p>We recommend that this comes back to panel after the strategy has been written, not because it is a bad EIA, but you are so early on in the process. It is great to see that equalities is a focus from the beginning of development.</p>
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If you receive an Amber rating, please can you send a copy of your revised EIA to the [Policy Team](#)

For reference

- **Green** – good to go/approved, providing sufficient evidence the public sector equality duty has been met.
- **Amber** – good to go subject to minor changes or mitigating actions being put in place and followed through in the development of the project/service/policy/procedure or practice.
- **Red** – inadequate, needs to be reworked before the decision goes forward, where it is evident the public sector equality duty has not been met or continuing with the project or proposal will lead to direct or indirect unlawful discrimination that cannot legitimately be justified.

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Equality Impact Assessment: conversation screening tool

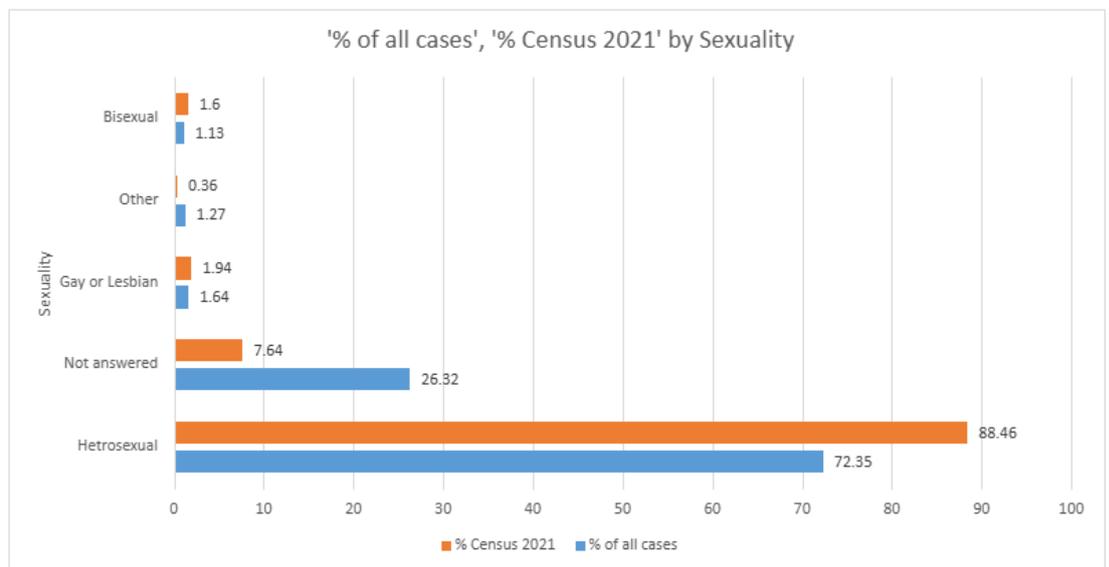
[Use this form to prompt an EIA conversation and capture the output between officers, stakeholders and interested groups. This completed form or a full EIA report will be published as part of the decision-making process]

Policy/Service under development/review:	Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy
What changes are being made to the policy/service?	<p>Under the Homelessness Act 2002, all housing authorities must have in place a Homelessness Strategy based on a review of all forms of homelessness in their district and demonstrating how homelessness will be prevented and resolved. The Strategy must be renewed at least every 5 years.</p> <p>The Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole (BCP) Homelessness Partnership have worked together to develop a new Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy which seeks to make homelessness everyone's business and building on the initial one (2021-25). This work therefore aims to build on the commitments of the preceding strategy whilst including anything that needs to be added. There was an interim review last year (2024) which streamlined the commitments following work with partners, experts by experience and Homewards. This included incorporating the Homewards BCP Action Plan, to ensure that that work was included as part of the overall Homelessness and rough sleeping strategy and action plan for BCP and was not siloed.</p> <p>The primary aim is preventing homelessness in the first place, ideally as upstream as possible to mitigate risk and harm, and where this is not possible, that homelessness incidences are rare, brief and not repeated. Part of this involves seeking to understand, and then address, factors that result in a higher risk of homelessness (or repeat homelessness), including groups that are at disproportionate risk, which includes diverse communities and groups more likely to be impacted by inequity and multiple disadvantage. The Strategy, and the accompanying Action Plan will provide refreshed and up to date strategic aims and commitments and specific actions to, broadly speaking, prevent and address all forms of homelessness via integrated partnership working. This will include specific work relating to tackling inequity, multiple disadvantage and disproportionate risk. This work is currently in the engagement phase, before a draft will be written and go to public consultation in the Autumn.</p>
Service Unit:	Housing
Persons present in the conversation and their role/experience in the service:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fraser Nicholson – Homelessness Partnerships Coordinator • Linda Wilson – Business and Compliance Coordinator
Conversation dates:	26/06/25 and 03/07/25
Do you know your current or potential client base? Who are the key stakeholders?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioned Housing Related Support/Housing led providers (St Mungo's, BCHA, CCP, Pivotal, Two Saints, Centrepoint, Bournemouth YMCA) • Housing providers / Landlords • Strategic Steering Group (SSG)

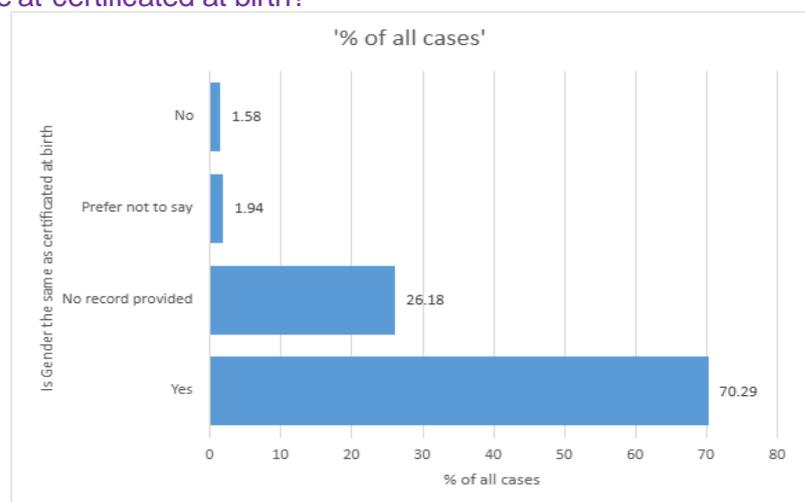
- Homelessness Delivery Board (Faithworks, Shelter, ICB (Integrated Care Board), Probation, Department of Work & Pensions (DWP), PRS (Private Rental Sector) Landlord Forum, Homeless Link, Public Health, MEAM (Making Every Adult Matter) Dorset Police)
- Support services - health, substance use and dependency, mental health
- MDT (Multidisciplinary Team working with long term cases of rough sleeping)
- Partnership services involved in the Homelessness Partnership and related Forum (50+ Charter signatories)
- Coproduction Community of Practise
- Frontline staff Community of Practice
- Reframing The Narrative Group (Comms)
- People who are homeless/ rough sleeping or at risk
- General public
- Community safety teams

Key data

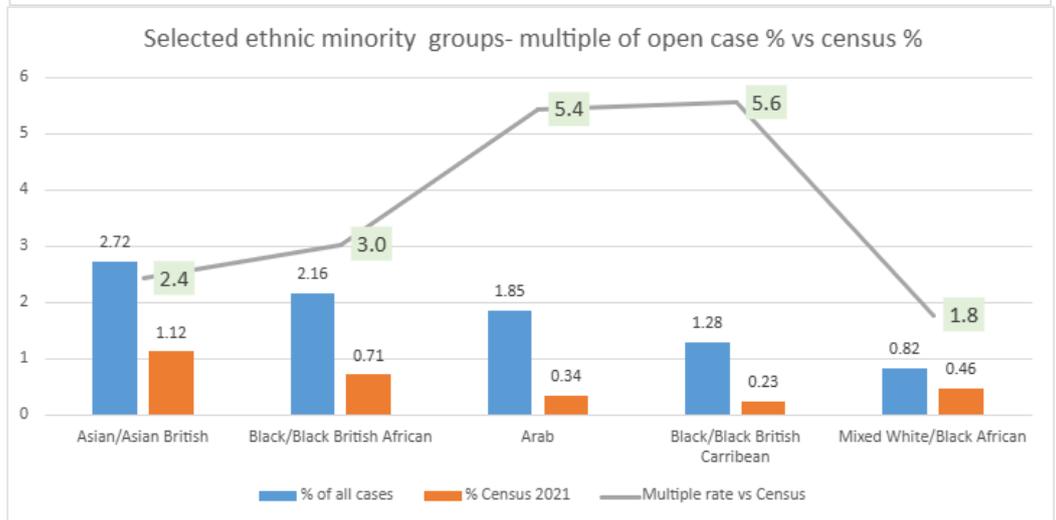
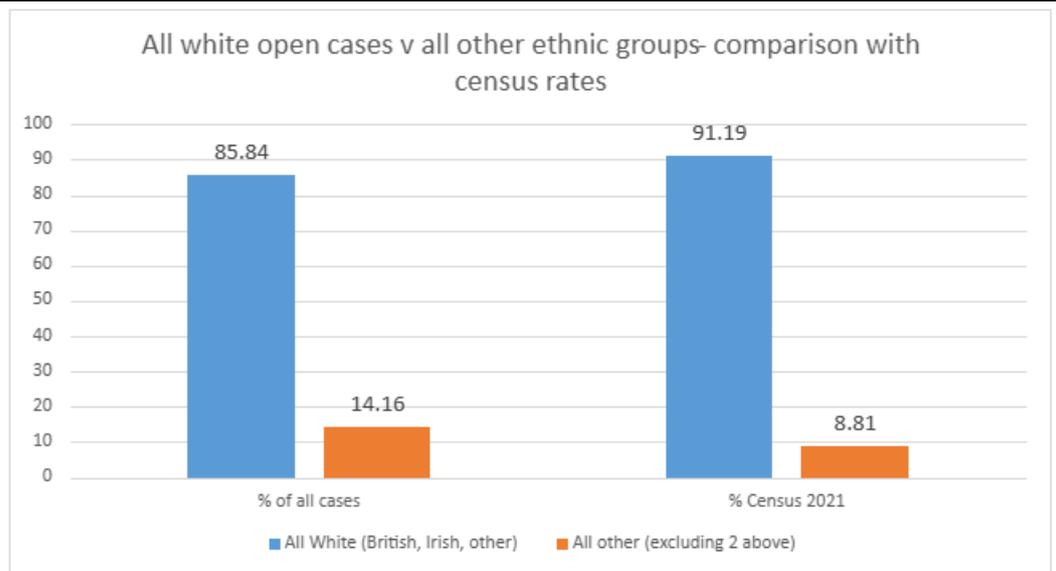
Sexuality



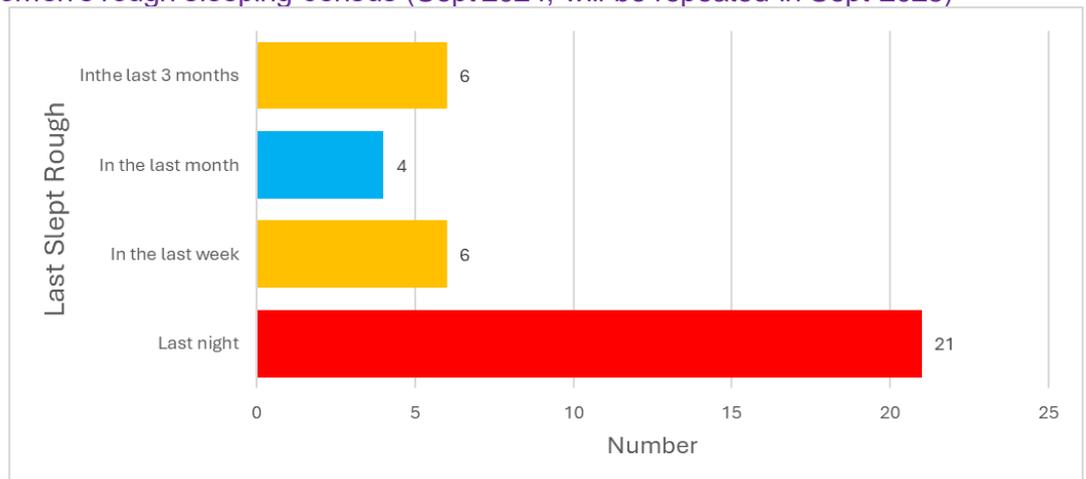
Gender the same at certificated at birth?

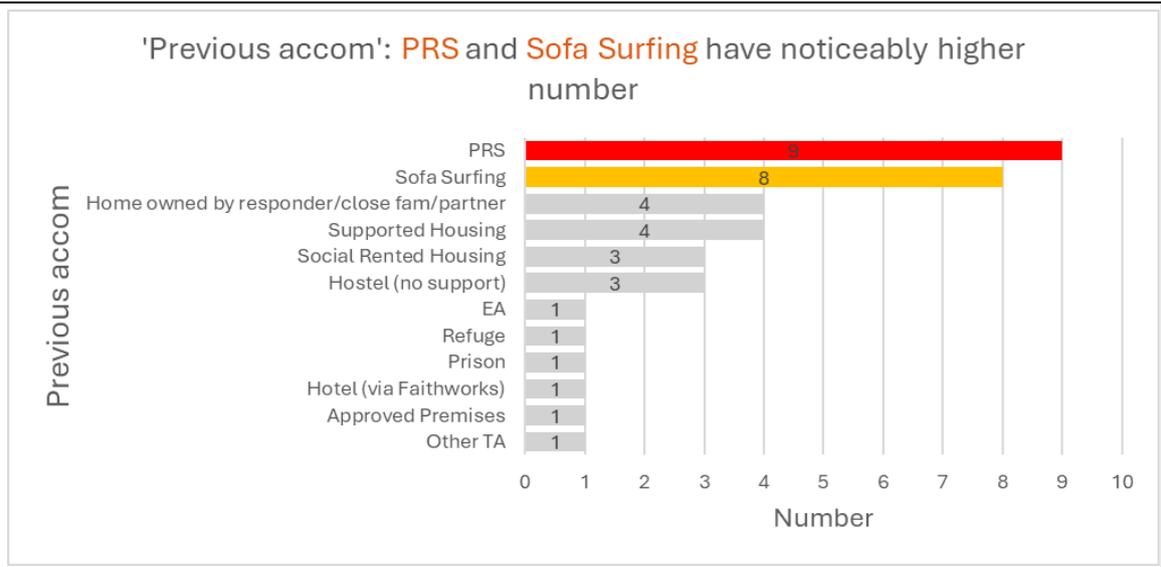


Ethnicity



Women's rough sleeping census (Sept 2024, will be repeated in Sept 2025)





LGBTQ+ people

As part of formulation and background research it is known that some groups are at particular risk of homelessness, including but not limited to the LGBTQ+ community (especially trans people) and the ethnic minority community. Nationally, see [LGBT Youth Homelessness Research Report 2025 - There's No Place Like Home - akt](#)

In BCP we are working at improving our data and understanding re this. Indicatively, on a snapshot in May 2025, there is indication that open homelessness cases are disproportionately higher for those in the LGBTQ+ community, when comparing with the wider population measured by census stats. The much lower level of heterosexual cases when compared to the census, combined with a much higher incidence of 'not answered' indicates that this is an area where people do not always feel comfortable asking (in case) of staff) or answering (for a potential host of reasons including prior negative experiences, fear of prejudice etc)

Do different groups have different needs or experiences in relation to the policy/service?

When it comes to gender being the same as registered at birth, there is not the same ability to match to census records, but the relatively high incidence of no record provided, indicates that this could a similar issue in terms of accurate reporting and underreporting, especially given that overall number of trans people is very low, and that this minority receive a significant amount of overt abuse and prejudice as well as any wider unconscious bias. There is clearly more to do in this area, and it is part of the work outlined below.

Following early scoping meetings with groups such as Dorset Race Equality Council, Community Action Network and the LGB&T Dorset Equality Network regarding this area a group was put together to develop and improve partnership approaches and ensuring minorities groups are given focus. The focus was primarily agreed to be, at least initially, the LGBTQ+ community, although there is a great degree of intersectionality involved. There has been some key work achieved to date including a comms campaign and a dedicated section for LGBTQ+ people in the BCP Homelessness Partnership website. The group has recently been refreshed, in June 2025, with additional members added to take the work on to the next stage including work on data, allyship and staff training.

Specific needs.

- Better data and ensuring that sufficient choices in terms of personal data (e.g. description of gender, sexuality and not being too binary or limiting.)
- There may be specific accommodation needs
- Subject to conscious and unconscious bias
- Higher likelihood of familial home breakdown, abuse, direct prejudice
- Disproportional related issues such as access to employment
- Trans people facing particular stigma, abuse and prejudice, as well as practical challenges such as use of public toilets and other gendered spaces.
- There are likely to be more needs identified

Ethnic Minorities

Similarly, whilst compared to some other parts of the country the numbers of ethnic minorities are relatively low in BCP, again there is evidence that rates of homelessness are higher, and this would again be in line with national patterns.

A snapshot demonstrated that all white categories together made up over 91% of the census population, this dropped to under 86% of the open cases. Conversely, all other ethnic groups made up less than 9% of the census population, but over 14% of all open cases. In addition, like with other minority groups, there is likely to be hidden homeless and other under-reporting masking the true scale and nature.

When the ethnic minority groups are further broken down, further disproportion appears to be evident with the scale of Arab and Black/Black British Caribbean both being more than 5 times the census rates, and black African 3 times.

This tracks close to national trends [Black people in England four times as likely to face homelessness, study finds | Homelessness | The Guardian](#)

Specific needs

- Higher likelihood of poverty and other forms of multiple disadvantage
- Direct and indirect prejudice and racism, particularly related to asylum myths and far right rhetoric
- Subject to conscious and unconscious bias
- Disproportional related issues such as access to employment, or only to lower paid and less secure work.
- Potential for relatively low numbers in areas such as BCP to mask higher proportional homelessness for this group
- There are likely to be more needs identified

Armed Forces- there can sometimes be a misperception around the numbers and proportion of people from the armed forces being more likely to become homeless, and especially rough sleeping, although it is certainly an issue for some. There are different options available for homeless veterans through the Armed Forces Covenant and associated support services. Generally, or at least often, veterans will only open up and talk to people with similar experiences, or certainly this will be their preference, and the outreach service has links to the relevant support services to maximise enablement of this.

A recent snapshot in May 2025 had 1.2% of open cases as having a background in the armed forces, against 4.5 of the 2021 census.

Specific needs

- Often have no experience of unregimented life (e.g. may have been in forces since leaving school) May never have had a civilian job, dealt with social security, needed to source and fund accommodation etc.
- Higher probability of PTS (Post Traumatic Stress) and other trauma responses, especially if previously deployed to war zones or disaster relief sites etc.
- Often struggle to trust support services, and are more comfortable speaking to fellow veterans
- There are likely to be more needs identified

Women

Another group where we have evidence that there are systemic barriers to support and to understanding and evidencing scale, is that of women, and especially those who are rough sleeping or experiencing related hidden homelessness or insecure, precarious accommodation. In these cases, there is often also a VAWG element, adding to the challenges. For the last 2 years BCP has participated in the week-long Women's Rough Sleeping Census, with plans for this coming Sept (2025) also. This multi-agency work uses wider forms of gender-based outreach and interaction with other services, to seek to establish a complete and more accurate picture of women's rough sleeping than standard outreach generally provides.

This is national work, but the trends in BPC have followed a similar pattern in terms of demonstrating that women's rough sleeping is undercounted. This has already allowed us to make some changes including a women's drop in, women-only accommodation and a more flexible approach re verification.

The census provided a host of evidence but below shows a periodic breakdown of when last slept rough, with the majority having been the previous night.

In terms of accommodation prior to rough sleeping the vast majority had come from the PRS, just ahead of having been sofa surfing.

Work continues to better understand and improve this situation, including planning for a Somewhere Safe to Stay off the street accommodation service for women and ongoing work to help ensure verification is not a barrier.

Specific needs

- Homelessness more likely to be hidden, especially rough sleeping, and may involve precarious accommodation, which may also involve coercion.
- Higher likelihood of domestic abuse of all forms
- System still geared towards homelessness affecting men, especially re rough sleeping.
- Disproportionally affected by other forms of social disadvantage, such as earnings gap and institutional sexism, glass ceilings etc, especially if they have had children
- There are likely to be more needs identified

Neurodiversity

	<p>For many people who are impacted by homelessness, there are much higher levels of neurodiversity that in the wider population. This is often undiagnosed or misdiagnosed, with factors such as masking impacting on how they are treated. There can also be a gender factor to this too, especially with females, including those with ADHD or AuDHD who until recently were not diagnosed or were labelled as having a personality disorder or similar. Additionally, many LGBTQ+ people are neurodivergent, which can mean another potential barrier to equitable treatment and access.</p> <p>Autism and Homelessness Homeless Link</p> <p>Specific needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very often undiagnosed • Very often misdiagnosed or labelled as difficult, rude, having a personality disorder etc • Often have had to mask to fit in or appear neurotypical, at personal cost • Often has led to educational challenges, employment challenges and social challenges when growing up and into adolescence and adulthood • There are likely to be more needs identified
<p>Will the policy or service change affect any of these service users?</p>	<p>Yes, further detail is included by protected characteristics below. This strategy will bring about beneficial outcomes with aims to prevent, reduce and stop homelessness and rough sleeping.</p>
<p>[If the answer to any of the questions above is 'don't know' then you need to gather more evidence and do a full EIA. The best way to do this is to use the Capturing Evidence form]</p>	
<p>What are the benefits or positive impacts of the policy/service change on current or potential service users?</p>	<p>Age</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fewer care experienced young people and other young people becoming homeless via better, earlier and multi-disciplinary upstream prevention, including in schools supported by the activity of the Youth Homelessness Board. • Improved advocacy supported by the activity of the Youth Homelessness Board • Fewer care experienced young people and other young people in B&B/Temp accommodation and adult homeless services • Address rise in older people becoming homeless by considering resourcing an older person's champion. • Fewer children in B&B, reducing later likelihood of their being homeless themselves, via more effective, and earlier prevention and shorter stays in TA. <p>Disability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better and quicker options for people with mobility challenges including via the allocations process. • Trauma training and similar will improve support staff's understanding of aspects such as post-traumatic stress, emotional dysregulation and acquired brain injuries. This will help with reducing misunderstanding, escalation and resulting unsuccessful or truncated appointments and help with improving empathy and the experience of those being assisted. • Other forms of disability, which may be hidden including neurodiversity (although this can also be a strength and it is neurotypical systems and short-sighted restrictions that can and often do make this a disability) and mental health challenges, particularly when severe in nature. Neurodiversity training has been made compulsory for the Housing Options team, with regular resources also

being shared to aid understanding. Other considerations include how customer contact spaces could be better adapted to be inclusive, or alternative venues utilised.

Sex

- Better accommodation and support for women leaving prison by improving planning for release and maximising options, including *own front door* options.
- Enhanced support for people who sex-work, working in close partnership with specialist services to ensure that safe routes off the street are optimised where needed, including safeguarding considerations.
- Consider supported housing provision and need for additional female-only provision. There is some existing provision, but there is a need for off the street accommodation such as a Somewhere Safe to Stay service.
- Consider need for male provision for refuge from domestic abuse.
- Consider need for safe trans spaces. First step via dialogue with trans people.

Gender Reassignment

- Closer working with specialist organisations to preclude/minimise direct and indirect discrimination and unconscious bias as well as better understanding of specific needs, particularly given recent High Court ruling concerning the definition of a woman and the subsequent fallout including a rise in abuse, prejudice and trauma, as well as potential legal challenge. Staff to be provided with information and training to ensure better and more bespoke support, and certainly not a one size fits all approach
- Focused work as part of sub-group of Partnership Action Group. This work includes improvements relating to training, data and comms as well as allyship and challenging prejudice.

Marriage and Civil Partnership

- Better options for all couples, including those not in heterosexual/heteronormative relationships including in supported housing.

Race

- Closer and focussed working with specialist organisations including ICN to preclude/minimise direct and indirect discrimination and unconscious bias as well as better understanding of specific. Advocacy and support particularly in the light of rising tensions, misinformation, prejudice and abuse fuelled by far-right activity.
- Ensure that data is regularly reviewed to help monitor and patters in relation to race, particularly as most minority ethnic groups are disproportionately impacted.
- Targeted prevention work in collaboration with community groups and leaders.

Religion or Belief

- Closer working with specialist organisations to preclude/minimise direct and indirect discrimination and unconscious bias as well as better understanding of specific needs.

Sexual Orientation

- Closer working with specialist organisations to preclude/minimise direct and indirect discrimination and unconscious bias as well as better understanding of specific needs.
- Focused work as part of sub-group of Partnership Action Group (see above)

Armed Forces

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early advice and housing options for veterans- prevention • Plan to implement having an Armed Forces Champion in the team, to be main point of contact and lead of proactive prevention and awareness raising <p>Carers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved advocacy and support for carers • Prevention work will reduce distress for carers of individuals at risk of homelessness/rough sleeping • Seek to reach the wider public, including carers, via community work such as the KEEP Project in location such as wellbeing hubs, community centres, food banks and libraries. <p>Human Rights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration of how to better help people with no recourse to public funds via a specific task and finish group involving community stakeholders. Close working with Social Care and organisations such as ICN. <p>It must also be recognised that with many of these groups there will be at least a degree of intersectionality, and in some cases this will be significant. This means that for some people the potential disadvantage and disproportional risk of homelessness will be accordingly much higher, as well as other forms of multiple disadvantage relating to poverty, education and poor health and mental health etc. This is obviously not universally true but is more likely to be the case than with many other groups.</p> <p>All other protected characteristics have been considered, and no other needs and experiences have been identified.</p>
<p>What are the negative impacts of the policy/service change on current or potential service users?</p>	<p>Age</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in online assistance may be disproportionately challenging to some older people who are not online or IT proficient, especially if at risk of homelessness for the first time. <p>Disability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As above <p>Again, for those who fall into both these categories, the likelihood for negative impact may rise and particularly if gradual with no significant trigger incident.</p>
<p>Will the policy or service change affect employees?</p>	<p>Yes, this strategy will further strengthen links with other services and the knowledge and experience of working alongside and in partnership with other services. This is a central BCP strategy and new action plan building on a successful current strategy and plan.</p>
<p>Will the policy or service change affect the wider community?</p>	<p>Yes, by preventing homelessness as early as possible, ensuring any cases are brief and ending repeat cases of homelessness. There will be benefits to people, services and less community issues. It will be very beneficial to the wider community as well as bringing savings and better value for money from the reduction of homelessness cycles and a better experience for everyone involved as capacity is freed up to help more people.</p>
<p>What mitigating actions are planned or already in place for those negatively affected by the policy/service change?</p>	<p>Where accessibility to online options was raised as an issue it's important to note there are other options available such as 1-2-1's and face-to-face support. Online options free up these services for those that might not have access or might need 1-2-1 support.</p> <p>We are still early in the process, and at this time are in the engagement phase, prior to the strategy being drafted. Any further negative impacts that become clear during the remainder of this process, including public consultation, will be addressed and mitigated and updated detail added to the EIA.</p>

**Summary of
Equality
Implications:**

This strategy will further improve links between services, increasing knowledge and experience of working with other services and aim to prevent homelessness and end repeat cases of homelessness and rough sleeping. Communication will be a part of this, including a focus on changing narratives and challenging perceptions about homelessness, its causes and the impacts.

As is clear in this document, whilst homelessness effects a broad range of society including people of all ages and backgrounds, there are specified groups who are at heightened and disproportional risk and as such much more likely to be directly impacted, including by hidden homelessness that is more likely to be hidden from official figures.

Throughout the development of this strategy, the needs, aspirations and insight of people accessing services, or with the potential to need to do so, is being considered, reflecting on protected characteristics and other vulnerabilities and seeking to achieve positive outcomes for all.

It is important to be mindful that these factors can mean that more effort and consideration is required to ensure or at least maximise equitable treatment and outcomes, and that there needs to be consideration of potential unconscious (or conscious) bias from workers and systems.

There will be benefits to people, staff, services and the wider community, bringing value for money from the reduction of homelessness cycles and a better experience for everyone involved, as more integrated and varied support services free-up capacity to help more people.

For any questions on this, please contact the Policy and Performance Team by email performance@bcpcouncil.gov.uk

**ENVIRONMENT AND PLACE
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**



Report subject	Work Plan
Meeting date	25 February 2026
Status	Public Report
Executive summary	The Overview and Scrutiny (O&S) Committee is asked to consider and identify work priorities for publication in a Work Plan.
Recommendations	It is RECOMMENDED that: the Overview and Scrutiny Committee review, update and confirm the Work Plan.
Reason for recommendations	The Council's Constitution requires all Overview and Scrutiny Committees to set out proposed work in a Work Plan which will be published with each agenda.
Portfolio Holder(s):	N/A – Overview and Scrutiny is a non-executive function
Corporate Director	Aidan Dunn, Chief Executive
Report Authors	Lindsay Marshall, Overview and Scrutiny Specialist
Wards	Council-wide
Classification	For Decision

Work Plan updates

1. This report provides the latest version of the Committee's Work Plan at Appendix A and guidance on how to populate and review the Work Plan in line with the Council's Constitution. For the purposes of this report, all references to Overview and Scrutiny Committees shall also apply to the Overview and Scrutiny Board unless otherwise stated.
2. Items added to the Work Plan since the last publication are highlighted as 'NEW'. Councillors are asked to consider and confirm the latest Work Plan.
3. The most recent [Cabinet Forward Plan](#) can be viewed on the council's website. This link is included in each O&S Work Plan report for councillors to view and refer to when considering whether any items of pre-decision scrutiny will join the O&S Committee Work Plan.

Resources to support O&S Work

4. The Constitution requires that O&S committees take account of the resources available to support proposals for O&S work. Advice on maximising the resource available to O&S Committees is set out in the O&S Work Planning Guidance document referenced below.

Work programming guidance and tools

5. The [Overview and Scrutiny Committees Terms of Reference](#) document provides detail on the principles of scrutiny at BCP Council, the membership, functions and remit of each O&S committee and the variety of working methods available.
6. [The O&S Work Planning Guidance](#) document provides detail on all aspects of work planning including how to determine requests for scrutiny in line with the Council's constitution.
7. The [O&S Framework for scrutiny topic selection](#) was drawn up by O&S councillors in conjunction with the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny. The framework provides detail on the criteria for proactive, reactive and pre-decision scrutiny topics, and guidance on how these can be selected to contribute to value-added scrutiny outcomes.
8. The '[Request for consideration of an issue by Overview and Scrutiny](#)' form is an example form to be used by councillors and residents when making a new suggestion for a scrutiny topic. Word copies of the form are available from Democratic Services upon request by using the contact details on this agenda.
9. Performance information: progress against the council's Corporate Strategy can be viewed on the council's [Performance Dashboard](#). The dashboard includes ratings to show where the council is on target, areas for monitoring or where action is required, and explanations. The dashboard includes measures relevant to all O&S committees and is provided to assist committees in their horizon scanning and work selection process.

Options Appraisal

10. The O&S Committee is asked to review, update and confirm its Work Plan, taking account of the supporting documents provided and including the determination of any new requests for scrutiny. This will ensure member ownership of the Work Plan and that reports can be prepared in a timely way.
11. If updates to the Work Plan are not confirmed there may be an impact on timeliness of reports and other scrutiny activity.

Summary of financial implications

12. There are no financial implications arising from this report.

Summary of legal implications

13. There are no legal implications arising from this report. The Council's Constitution requires that all O&S bodies set out proposed work in a Work Plan which will be published with each agenda. The recommendation proposed in this report will fulfil this requirement.

Summary of human resources implications

14. There are no human resources implications arising from this report.

Summary of sustainability impact

15. There are no sustainability resources implications arising from this report.

Summary of public health implications

16. There are no public health implications arising from this report.

Summary of equality implications

17. There are no equality implications arising from this report. Any councillor and any member of the public may make suggestions for overview and scrutiny work. Further detail on this process is included within O&S Procedure Rules at Part 4 of the Council's Constitution.

Summary of risk assessment

18. There is a risk of challenge to the Council if the Constitutional requirement to establish and publish a Work Plan is not met.

Background papers

- [Overview and Scrutiny Committees Terms of Reference](#)
- [O&S Work Planning Guidance document](#)
- [O&S Framework for scrutiny topic selection](#)
- ['Request for consideration of an issue by Overview and Scrutiny'](#)

Further detail on these background papers is contained within the body of this report.

Appendices

Appendix A - Current O&S Work Plan

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BCP Council Environment and Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Work Plan. Updated 30.06.25

Guidance notes:

- 2/3 items per committee meeting is the recommended maximum for effective scrutiny.
- The Environment and Place O&S Committee will approach work through a lens of **SUSTAINABILITY**
- Items requiring further scoping are identified and should be scoped using the Key Lines of Enquiry tool.

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	Subject and background	How will the scrutiny be done?	Lead Officer/Portfolio Holder	Report Information
Meeting Date: 20 May 2026				
1.	Local Transport Plan	Pre-decision Scrutiny of a Cabinet Report	PH – Climate Response, Environment and Energy, Cllr Andy Hadley	It was agreed to add this item to the work plan following the transfer of this function from the O & S Board – Item schedule on Cabinet FP date changed to May 26
2.	Housing Strategy Review - NEW	Pre-decision Scrutiny of a Cabinet Report	Cllr Kieron Wilson	
3.	Reserved for proactive Scrutiny matters			
Briefing Date: 18 March 26 - Chemical Scrutiny or Building Regulations				
Briefing Date: 15 April 26 – Vanlife – update from officers around information the Council already hold.				
Meetings with items to be allocated.				
Meeting Date: 15 July 2026				
1.				
2.				

Key: Pre-decision or reactive scrutiny item Proactive Scrutiny item

3.	Reserved for proactive Scrutiny matters			
Meeting Date: 9 September 2026				
1.	Reserved for proactive Scrutiny matters			
2.	Reserved for Pre-Cabinet Scrutiny			
3.				
Meeting Date: 18 November 2026				
1.	Reserved for proactive Scrutiny matters			
2.	Reserved for Pre-Cabinet Scrutiny			
3.				
Meeting Date: 24 February 2027				
1.	Reserved for proactive Scrutiny matters			
2.	Reserved for Pre-Cabinet Scrutiny			
3.				
Items with Dates to be allocated:				

Key:  Pre-decision or reactive scrutiny item  Proactive Scrutiny item

1.	<p>Climate and Nature</p> <p>The purpose of this report is to support work relating to climate and nature by determining a scrutiny process focused on the relevant key priorities within the Corporate Plan.</p>	TBC - Needs to be Scoped using Kloe Document	PH – Climate Response, Environment and Energy, Cllr Andy Hadley	Report Information KLOE Document
2.	<p>Redhill Paddling Pool</p> <p>To investigate how Council arrived at the current situation and investigate ways to keep the paddling pool open and report back to full Council.</p>	Needs to be Scoped using KLOE Document	TBC	<p>Item added to the work plan in April 2025 following a referral from Council in response to a petition.</p> <p>KLOE Document</p>
3.	<p>Christchurch Harbour</p> <p>To consider options for a potential Christchurch Harbour Protection Policy and inclusion in the Local Plan.</p>	Needs to be scoped using KLOE Document	PH – Climate Response, Environment and Energy, Cllr Andy Hadley / Leader of the Council	This item was agreed to be added to the work plan at the meeting in May 2025.
4.	<p>Achieving Carbon Emission Neutrality</p> <p>To consider how the committee can contribute to and support the council in reaching its net zero targets by 2030.</p>	<p>TBC - Further work on this will be informed by the LAEP report. It may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vehicle Fleet • Housing, • Energy Supply Procurement Strategy. 	PH – Climate Response, Environment and Energy, Cllr Andy Hadley	It was agreed to add this to the Work Plan in November 2024 following recommendations from the Budget framework working group
5.	<p>Community Owned Renewable Energy</p> <p>To consider in-depth, options around community owned renewable energy and support provided for this from the Council.</p>	TBC – KLOE Document to be completed	PH – Climate Response, Environment and Energy, PH – Community and Partnerships	

Key: Pre-decision or reactive scrutiny item Proactive Scrutiny item

6.	<p>Temporary Accommodation Strategy</p> <p>To consider the development of the Temporary Accommodation Strategy at an appropriate time in its development.</p>	TBC	PH - Housing	It was agreed to add this to the Work Plan in November 2024 following recommendations from the Budget framework working group
7.	<p>Safer Accommodation Strategy Review</p> <p>To consider a review of the provision of safe accommodation and associated commissioning</p>	TBC	PH - Housing	It was agreed to add this to the Work Plan in April 2025 following recommendations from the Safe Accommodation Strategy Working Group
8.	<p>Development of Safe Accommodation Strategy KPI's</p> <p>To consider the development of KPIs related to the Safe Accommodation Strategy through test and challenge to draft measures.</p>	Committee Report	PH - Housing	It was agreed to add this to the Work Plan in April 2025 following recommendations from the Safe Accommodation Strategy Working Group
9.	<p>Update on the Implementation of the Safe Accommodation Strategy</p> <p>To review the progress in the strategy and wider domestic abuse work, including monitoring of associated KPIs.</p>	<p>TBC - consider whether this should be part of a wider housing update.</p> <p>Cross cutting with other O&S Bodies - all Chair's to be invited.</p>	PH - Housing	<p>It was agreed to add this to the Work Plan in April 2025 following recommendations from the Safe Accommodation Strategy Working Group</p> <p>Annual Update requested -</p>
10.	<p>Pedestrian Crossing Update</p>	Cllr Rice to verbally update at meetings		Update as and when there is information to come through.

Key:  Pre-decision or reactive scrutiny item  Proactive Scrutiny item

11.	Van Life – Community Pact Item to consider the potential for a community pact for vehicle dwellers, including potential designated safe parking areas. Enquiry Session – to be scoped using KLOE Document	TBC		Item added to the work plan following request from Council in December 2024 Report Information
12.	Building Regs Update - NEW			Follow on from previous meeting item as Government paper was due out Autumn 25
13.	Play Streets Updates - NEW			Added in October 25 meeting
Working Groups				
	There are no currently operating working groups or requests agreed for a working group.			
Item suggestions for Briefing Sessions				
	Chemicals Scrutiny – Information session requested for this at May 2024 meeting.	Informal Briefing		This requires further scoping – KLOE document

Key: Pre-decision or reactive scrutiny item Proactive Scrutiny item

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CABINET



Report subject	Corporate Performance Report - Q2
Meeting date	17 December 2025
Status	[Public / Exempt] Report
Executive summary	<p>BCP Council adopted ‘A shared vision for Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole 2024-28’ in May 2024.</p> <p>The shared vision is the corporate strategy which sets out the council’s vision, priorities and ambitions as well as the principles which underpin the way the council works as it develops and delivers its services.</p> <p>Incorporated in the vision is a set of measures of progress for achieving the vision, priorities and ambitions.</p> <p>This is the performance monitoring report for Quarter Two 25-26, presenting an update on the progress measures.</p> <p>The council’s delivery against its priorities and ambitions can also be monitored through the performance dashboard which is available on the council’s website providing up-to-date real time information on the progress measures.</p>
Recommendations	<p>It is RECOMMENDED that Cabinet:</p> <p>a) Consider the Quarter Two performance</p> <p>(b) Note that work continues to expand the data available on the interactive performance dashboard</p> <p>(c) Note the positive activities highlighted in the report</p>
Reason for recommendations	<p>Our shared vision for Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole sets out the priorities and ambitions against which the council’s performance will be judged, and as such is a vital component of the council’s performance management framework.</p> <p>An understanding of performance against targets, goals and objectives helps the council to assess and manage service delivery and identify emerging business risks</p>

Portfolio Holder(s):	Councillor Millie Earl, Leader of the Council
Corporate Director	Aidan Dunn, Chief Executive
Service Director	Isla Reynolds, Director of Marketing, Communications and Policy
Report Authors	Chris Shephard, Head of Policy. Strategy and Partnerships Liz Orme, Policy & Strategy Officer Pippa Quinton, Policy Apprentice Performance leads across the council
Wards	Council-wide
Classification	For Information

Background

1. BCP Council adopted 'A shared vision for Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole 2024-28' in May 2024 which was developed following a process of stakeholder engagement from June to October 2023.
2. The vision includes a comprehensive set of progress measures that track performance against the ambitions and focus areas of activity.
3. Since the vision was adopted, work has been carried out to establish and evolve baseline data, targets and intervention levels for the progress measures.
4. A performance dashboard has been created which we have been using successfully to support the monitoring of our progress towards the council's vision, using technology to enhance transparency and support data-driven decisions. This dashboard is updated by performance officers across the council, providing real-time information as it's available and is accessible on the council's website. The dashboard continues to be updated and evolved.
5. The Corporate Strategy Delivery Board meeting allows officers to meet monthly to monitor delivery of the council's vision at a strategic level. This also allows the board to conduct delivery deep dives and risk reviews, allowing for areas of concern to be addressed in a timely manner and best practice can be celebrated and shared. The board also allows the Council to prioritise key areas of activity.

An interactive performance dashboard to monitor performance

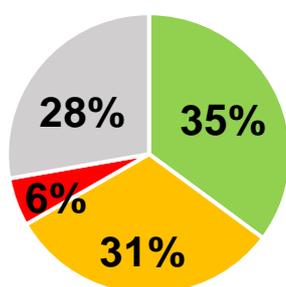
6. A live and interactive [performance dashboard](#) is available alongside quarterly reports, providing a real-time tracking tool that effectively addresses Cabinet's previous concerns regarding the timeliness of the reports. This is because quarterly performance reports are static snapshots of performance, often two to three months out of date by the time they reach Cabinet.
7. The performance dashboard supports the council's approach towards data-driven decision-making and continuous improvement in organisational performance.

8. Furthermore, transparency and accountability is enhanced through the public-facing live performance dashboard, accessible at all times by residents, councillors and officers.
6. The dashboard's purpose is to maintain a strategic perspective of overall council performance, and it is reviewed regularly with directors to ensure the best data is provided. Cabinet also has the flexibility to introduce additional measures if necessary for more detailed performance monitoring.
7. The dashboard is developing in phases, with further plans to enhance data availability, links to other dashboards and data sources and provide various lenses to view the data eventually replacing the need for a paginated performance report.
8. The dashboard was reviewed for accessibility and usability and changes to the design and content are being made as a result.
9. Links have been made to a [sustainability dashboard](#) demonstrating further information on the council's advancements towards achieving our net zero targets.
10. Subsequent phases will include:
 - a. Progress on strategic programmes of work,
 - b. Analysis of the latest data regarding the health of the people and places within the BCP area,
 - c. Sharing an overview of corporate risks.

Summary of Quarter Two Performance

11. Quarter Two data shows some significant changes in performance (Figure 1) explained by most annual and bi-annual measures being moved to pending (grey). The percentage of measures that are on target (green) has moved from 58% in Quarter One to 35% in Quarter Two. The percentage of pending measures has increased from 4% in Quarter One to 28% in Quarter Two. These measures are now showing as pending (grey) because data is not yet available so there is no data to report in this quarter. Where performance is being monitored (amber), the percentage has moved from 36% in Quarter One to 31% in Quarter Two. The percentage of those measures requiring action (red) has moved from 2% in Quarter One to 6% in Quarter Two.

Figure 1: Quarter Two Performance Summary



12. Appendix A has more detail for each measure including the latest performance compared to the target and the baseline, and an updated commentary.

13. The direction of travel for each measure is also provided in Appendix A. This shows whether performance is improving, declining or remains the same level compared to the previous update. For Quarter Two, there are fewer measures showing a positive direction of travel compared to Quarter One with 20 measures showing a positive direction of travel (20 compared to 27), 7 fewer measures showing a negative direction (13 compared to 20), and 2 more measures have stayed the same (6 compared to 4).

14. It is important to note the excellent performance in the following measures:

- The number of available Council and public Electric Vehicle (EV) chargers has increased to 265 in the latest Government figures.
- We are seeing a strong increase the number of Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) served for fly tipping and littering offences with 1428 issued including 8 PSPO offences, 17 for fly-tipping, 3 for waste duty of care and 1400 for litter. This is up on last quarter (760) and up on target (840).
- Footfall across the 3 town centres is up, 22.54m from 21.74m last quarter and over target (20m).
- We are improving from 95% to 96% the timeliness of assessments to determine the child's needs is conducive with offering the right service at the right time to children, young people and their families. This is consistently high performing (8 consecutive quarters), higher than the national benchmark (85%) and comparator authorities.
- There has been a strong reduction in the number of secondary school aged children excluded from school with 7 permanent exclusions (0.067%), from 35 (0.137%) in the spring term.
- There is a marked reduction in the percentage of children and young people returning to early help within 12 months from 13% to 10%.
- number of current council employees supported to undertake apprenticeships has increased from 123 to 126.
- We have achieved 6 successful grant applications, a 100% success rate. These are:
 - £95,000 awarded by Environment Agency for Debris Screen Health and Safety Works.
 - £6,222,000 awarded by Environment Agency for Poole Bridge to Hunger Hill Flood Defences.
 - £1,501,000 awarded by Arts Council England for Museum Estate and Development Fund.
 - £73,000 awarded by Veolia for Queens Park Play Area.
 - £376,000 awarded by Arts Council England for Poole Museum.
 - £93,000 awarded by DEFRA for King Charles III England Coast Path.

15. There are more details in the positive exception reports in Appendix 2. There are some without exception reports. This is due to officers in those areas being fully

immersed in inspections, the implementation of Pay and Reward, or other major projects.

16. There are also those measures that are doing less well and are areas of focus. Some of these for Quarter Two are:

- The percentage of all major planning applications determined on time has fallen from 88% in Quarter One to 69% in Quarter Two.
- The percentage of waste diverted from landfill fell to 86.25%, below Quarter One, target and intervention level.
- The number of homeless households in bed & breakfast has increased from 44 in Quarter One to 65 in Quarter Two.
- The number of people rough sleeping has increased from 49 in Quarter One to 66 in Quarter Two.
- We continue to see a significant downward trend on 'Increase the percentage of Education Health Care Plans issued within 20 weeks', from 58.54% to 24.60%.

17. There are more details in the exception reports at Appendix 3 including an exception report included relating to the Residents Survey which was requested by Cabinet at the review of Quarter One performance. There are some without exception reports. This is due to officers in those areas being fully immersed in inspections, the implementation of pay and reward and other major projects.

18. It is also interesting to note two new measures relating to the Corporate Strategy ambition of "Our inclusive, vibrant and sustainable economy supports our communities to thrive". These are to "Increase non-financial support given to BCP-based businesses" and to "Increase in the creation of new business enterprises".

These replace the measure "Increase the number of jobs created and/or safeguarded through Government and/or external funding", which helped deliver the Corporate Strategy ambition of "Employment is available for everyone and helps create value in our communities". This change is due to the external funding that was driving this measure, ending. The changes ensure performance relating to job creation through entrepreneurship, and business support, continues to be measured, just under a different ambition. This change has been approved by Corporate Strategy Delivery Board at November's meeting.

19. Performance continues to be monitored by services and by the Corporate Strategy Delivery Board to ensure appropriate mitigations are in place and actions being taken.

Summary of financial implications

20. There are no financial implications as this is a performance monitoring report for the corporate strategy. The corporate strategy is an important document to identify and establish project priorities for council budget-setting and contains programmes of work aimed at improving strategic finance, under the Our Approach priority.

Summary of legal implications

21. There are 3 measures that require action in Quarter Two. Any potential risks and mitigations have been and will continue to be assessed by the relevant service area and reviewed by the Corporate Strategy Delivery Board.

Summary of human resources implications

22. One of the key strategies linked to delivery of the corporate strategy - the people and culture strategy - aims to foster a high-performance culture. Through a performance framework, colleagues understand their roles and contribution to BCP Council's vision and ambitions. It includes regular 1:1s, SMART objectives, and annual reviews. Personal objectives are linked to corporate ambitions in the shared vision for Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole. A dashboard is being developed with ICT to provide council leadership teams with performance insights, enhancing alignment to performance reporting. Additionally, programmes under Our Approach priority aim to positively impact human resources.

Summary of sustainability impact

23. The programmes of work underpinning the Place and Environment priority of the corporate strategy are designed to have a positive impact on sustainability outcomes.

Summary of public health implications

24. The programmes of work underpinning the People and Communities and Our Approach priorities in the corporate strategy are designed to have a positive impact on public health outcomes.

Summary of equality implications

25. The work programmes supporting the corporate strategy aim to positively impact protected groups. Equality impact assessments are conducted for these programmes, particularly under the People and Communities and Our Approach priorities.

Summary of risk assessment

26. There are 3 measures from Quarter Two that require action, and 17 that require monitoring. Potential risks and mitigations are assessed by the relevant service area and are regularly reviewed by Corporate Strategy Delivery Board

Background papers

- [A shared vision for Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole](#)
- [BCP Council Corporate Performance Dashboard](#)

Appendices

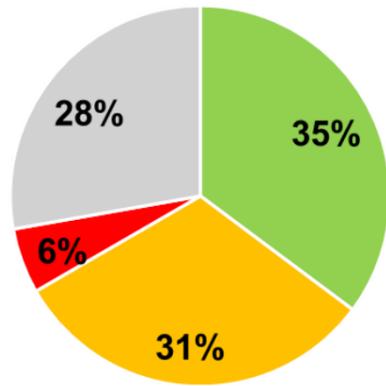
Appendix 1: Quarter Two - Corporate Performance Report – Overview of Q2 Performance

Appendix 2: Positive Exception Reports

Appendix 3: Exception Reports

Quarter 2 2025-26 - Overview of performance

This report provides an update of quarter two in the 2025/26 year on the progress measures in the council's shared vision for Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole. More detail is available in the [performance dashboard](#).

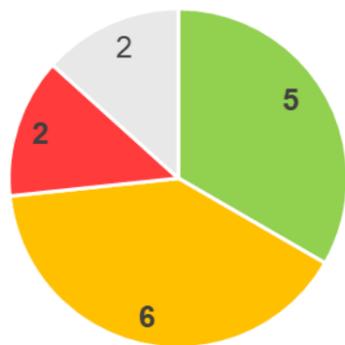


Q2 Overall

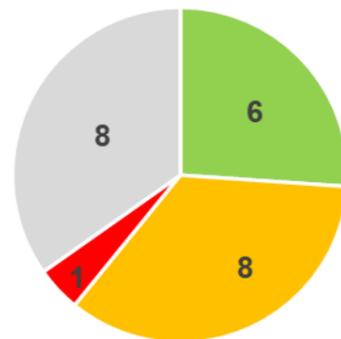
- 19 Measures are on target (green)
- 17 measures require monitoring (amber)
- 3 measure requires action (red)
- 15 measures are pending a RAG rating (grey) mostly due to these being annual or bi-annual measures

Across the three corporate priority areas, this breaks down into:

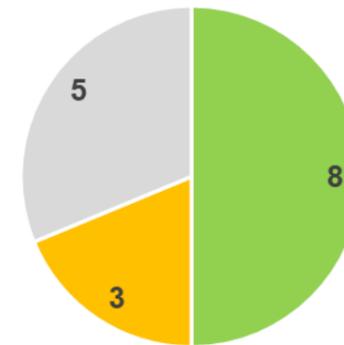
Our Place and Environment



Our People and Communities



Our Approach



More detail about each measure is set out in the following tables.

Explanation of performance tables

- **Frequency:** How often new data is available
- **High or low figure is better:** Whether good performance is a higher figure or a lower figure.
- **Baseline figure:** A reference point from which the latest progress can be monitored. The time period the baseline data relates to is noted.
- **Target:** The performance level (goal) the council is aiming to achieve. Rationale for target levels are provided in the performance dashboard.
- **Direction of travel & RAG:** This column shows whether performance is improving, declining or remaining at the same level compared to the previous update. This is indicated by a directional arrow.

Whether the Q2 data is on target is shown by the RAG rating:

- **Red:** Performance has not met its target and has reached a level of intervention at which action is required to improve performance.
 - **Amber:** Performance is not on target but has not reached a level at which action is needed. This requires monitoring to ensure performance stays on track.
 - **Green:** Performance has met or exceeded its target.
 - **Pending:** RAG rating not set. This could be because more data is needed to set targets to know if performance is on track, or new data is not yet available, such as with annual or biannual measures.
- **Commentary:** Provides further detail on performance.

Our Place and Environment

There are currently fifteen measures that sit under the six ambitions of 'Our Place and Environment' priority. Two of these are measured **annually** and two measured **biannually** and are shaded grey unless being reported in Q2, and eleven are measured **quarterly**.

Ref	Measure	Frequency	High or low figure is better	Baseline figure	Target	Q2 Data	Direction of travel & RAG	Commentary
People and places are connected by sustainable and modern infrastructure								
PE1A.1	Increase the total number of sustainable passenger trips in the BCP area per year	Quarterly	High	24.85M (June 2025)	27.71M (March 2026)	24.84M (September 2025)	↔	The number of bus passenger trips shows a very slight decline from the previous quarter. The increase in the national fares cap from £2 to £3 is affecting bus patronage and lack of noticeable growth in the national economy is also a factor.
PE1A.2	Increase the number of publicly available Electric Vehicle (EV) charge points	Quarterly	High	220 (June 2025)	240 (September 2025)	265 (September 2025)	↑	The number of council and public electric vehicle (EV) chargers has increased to 265, exceeding the target. Earlier delays were caused by procurement and contract issues, but these have now been resolved and site programming is underway. The Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (LEVI) bid secured 1,100 charging sockets and six rapid charging hubs, with the first hub now set to be operational in early 2026 and more to follow. A homeowner charging gully trial is also starting imminently, supported by £93,000 in grant funding. Despite previous setbacks, these developments provide a strong foundation for delivering EV infrastructure across the area.
Our communities have pride in our streets, neighbourhoods and public spaces								
PE2B.1	Increase the number of Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) served for fly tipping and littering offences	Quarterly	High	760 (June 2025)	844 (September 2025)	1.43K (September 2025)	↑	1428 fixed penalty notices issued including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 PSPO offences • 17 flytipping • 3 waste duty of care • 1400 litter The increase in FPNs issued this quarter is due to additional mobile resource to support visitor influx.
PE2D.1	Reduce levels of police recorded antisocial behaviour (ASB)	Quarterly	Low	2,370 (June 2025)	1,775.5 (September 2025)	2,573 (September 2025)	↓	There is a slight rise in anti-social behaviour (ASB) data for the last quarter compared to the same quarter last year. There is joint work currently being done between the Police and BCP Council around writing an ASB strategy and a new strategic ASB group is being formed.
PE2D.2	Increase enforcement outcomes relating to street-based antisocial behaviour (ASB)	Quarterly	High	1,475 (June 2025)	1,926 (September 2025)	1,069 (September 2025)	↓	Street based enforcement stats Q2: Number of CSAS incidents attended: 632 Number of alcohol seizures: 22 Number of dispersals: 344 Early intervention notices: 10 Support referrals:34 Community Protection Warnings (CPW) – 23 Community Protection Notices (CPN) – 1 Anti-Social Behaviour Injunctions (ASBI) – 1

								Closure – 2 We have seen an overall year-on-year reduction in anti-social behaviour statistically and a quarterly reduction in the new metrics being tracked over the summer period, which bucks the previous years' trends. As such individual engagements and enforcement will be lower.
PE2A.1	Increase the percentage of residents who are satisfied with their local area as a place to live	Biannual	High	75% (March 2025)	-	-		This is an annual measure not reported at Q2 so it has been marked as 'pending' until new data is available. This measure relates to the Resident's Survey, so new data will be available when the next survey takes place.
PE2B.2	Increase residents' satisfaction with street cleaning	Biannual	High	48% (March 2025)	-	-		This is an annual measure not reported at Q2 so it has been marked as 'pending' until new data is available. This measure relates to the Resident's Survey, so new data will be available when the next survey takes place.
Our inclusive, vibrant and sustainable economy supports our communities to thrive								
PE3A.1	Increase the number of businesses in the BCP area	Annual	High	15,495 (December 2024)	15,500 (December 2025)	15,600 (September 2025)	↑	The number of enterprises measure tracks the size of the business stock in the BCP Council area and is Office of National Statistics (ONS) data (UK Business Counts).
PE3B.1	Increase non-financial support given to BCP-based businesses	Quarterly	High	0	475 (March 2026)	280 (September 2025)	↑	The businesses supported is a new measure, agreed at the Corporate Strategy Performance Board on 11 November 2025 and tracks the number of BCP based businesses that are supported. Support includes enquiries received and responded to, and attendance at events.
PE3C.1	Increase in the creation of new business enterprises	Quarterly	High	0	30 (March 2026)	9 (September 2025)	↑	The new enterprises measure is new, agreed at the Corporate Strategy Performance Board on 11 November 2025, and tracks the number of new enterprises (businesses) set up following our UKSPF funded 'ignite' business start-up courses. There are courses for both BCP residents and BCP based university students.
Revitalised high streets and regenerated key sites create new opportunities								
PE4A.1	Increase footfall across our three town centres	Quarterly	High	21.74M (June 2025)	20M (September 2025)	22.54M (September 25)	↑	As expected, the summer season delivered a strong footfall performance, amounting to 22.5 million visits to Bournemouth, Christchurch, and Poole town centres in Q2, reflecting the area's enduring appeal as a summer destination. This represents a significant improvement compared to the Q1 figures with an additional 2 million visitors. The growth is particularly positive given that town centre footfall has generally faced static or declining trends post-Covid, driven by changing consumer habits, increased online shopping, and economic pressures. Achieving sustained growth in this metric is challenging, making these results a positive indicator of the resilience of BCP's visitor economy.
PE4B.1	Increase the percentage of all major planning applications determined on time	Quarterly	High	88% (June 2025)	80% (September 2025)	69% (September 2025)	↓	Planning application determination data is sourced from central government and provides year-to-date quarterly performance updates. 32 major planning applications were determined in Q2, although throughput and total number of decisions is high in terms of the number of

								decisions issued in time, performance has dipped in Q2. This has been in part due to issuing decisions on a number of older applications where the applicant had been unwilling to agree to an extension of time. Other factors which have influenced this is staff sickness which reduced capacity to handle and determine major planning applications. This has been highlighted to the planning team and the team managers will be working closely with the senior planning officers to ensure performance increases in Q3.
PE4B.2	Increase the percentage of all non-major planning applications determined on time	Quarterly	High	83% (June 2025)	92% (September 2025)	88% (September 2025)	↑	Performance has increased in Q2 and remains strong in this area. Staff recruited earlier in the year have now had time to establish themselves within the team and the department is seeing the benefits of a period of stability. It is anticipated that performance will continue to improve and meet targets.
Climate change is tackled through sustainable policies and practice								
PE5E.1	Increase the percentage of waste diverted from landfill	Quarterly	High	89.07% (June 2025)	90% (March 2026)	86.25% (September 2025)	↓	A temporary decrease in our landfill diversion rate is due to a decision made by our waste contractors to send residual waste to landfill rather than to Energy from Waste (EfW) facilities. This decision was taken during a period when EfW facilities were undergoing scheduled maintenance resulting in a shortage of available capacity. We will monitor this situation although we believe Q3 & Q4 will show some improvement.
197 PE 5A.1	Reduce the tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions from our vehicles and buildings (tCO2e).	Annual	Low	12,911 (October 2024)	Carbon Neutral by 2045	13.4% reduction in 2024/25 against annual reduction in 23/24	↑	Progress has been made during 2024/25, showing an overall reduction in emissions by 13.4%, this has been achieved by retrofit investment on the corporate estate, increased purchase of Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil, investment in the electric vehicle fleet and more accuracy in the revised staff travel survey.
Our green spaces flourish and support the wellbeing of both people and nature								
Measures under discussion with Green Space and Conservation team.								

Our People and Communities

There are twenty three measures that sit under the seven ambitions of 'Our People and Communities' priority. Eight are measured **annually**, twelve are measured **quarterly**, two are **termly** and one is collected **every two years**. Annual/biannual measures are shaded grey unless being reported in Q2.

Ref	Measure	Frequency	High or low figure is better	Baseline figure	Target	Q2 Data	Direction of travel & RAG	Commentary
High quality of life for all, where people can be active, healthy and independent								
PC1A.2	Increase the percentage of people with a learning disability living independently in settled accommodation	Quarterly	High	81.2% (June 2025)	80% (March 2026)	79.7% (September 2025)	↓	We have maximised opportunities to de-register residential homes i.e., to support the transition of individuals – particularly those with learning disabilities (LD) or mental

Ref	Measure	Frequency	High or low figure is better	Baseline figure	Target	Q2 Data	Direction of travel & RAG	Commentary
								<p>health (MH) needs – into settled, supported accommodation.</p> <p>Commissioning is refocusing on developing appropriate supported accommodation to divert people away from residential care. A Working Age Adult Framework is to be tendered Spring 2025 to maximise procurement opportunities for supported living. Ongoing work with Housing to develop a Strategic Housing Plan to inform specialist housing development. Work continues to address updating the records of people with an unknown accommodation status. Strategic Housing Plan now completed by PPL (Private Public Ltd) and subgroups being set up by Housing to take forward specific developments by primary support groups. Framework due out this year to provide the care and support against each property.</p> <p>Supported Housing</p> <p>Commissioning is currently working with housing and development to increase specialist accommodation capacity through the specialist housing strategy. We have a development due in March 2026 which will provide 13 MH and 13 LD one bed (2 person) flats. Allowing us to nominate either for one person or couples.</p> <p>We are also working through a consultation pre planning on another development that will provide an additional 12 one bed flats for LD. Planning to go in 2026.</p>
PC1A.3	Increase the percentage of people with a mental health issue living independently in settled accommodation	Quarterly	High	70.8% (June 2025)	70% (September 2025)	70% (September 2025)	↔	<p>We have maximised opportunities to de-register residential homes i.e., to support the transition of individuals – particularly those with learning disabilities (LD) or mental health (MH) needs – into settled, supported accommodation.</p> <p>Commissioning is refocusing on developing appropriate supported accommodation to divert people away from residential care. A Working Age Adult Framework to be tendered in Spring 2025 to maximise procurement opportunities for supported living. Ongoing work with Housing to develop to a Strategic Housing Plan to inform specialist housing development. Work continues to address updating the records of people with an unknown accommodation status. Strategic Housing Plan now completed by PPL (Private Public Ltd) and subgroups being set up by Housing to take forward specific developments by primary support groups. Framework due out this year to provide the care and support against each property.</p> <p>Supported Housing.</p> <p>Commissioning is currently working with housing and development to increase specialist accommodation capacity through the specialist housing strategy. We have a development due to come online March 2026 which will</p>

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								provide 13 MH and 13 LD one bed (2 person) flats. Allowing us to nominate either for one person or couples. We are also working through a consultation pre planning on another development that will provide an additional 12 one bed flats for LD. Planning to go in 2026.
PC1B.1	Increase the number of registrations from people in the most deprived areas accessing health and wellbeing support (LiveWell Dorset)	Quarterly	High	257 (June 2025)	267 (September 2025)	222 (September 2025)	↓	The service continues to reach clients living in our most deprived neighbourhoods. Registration numbers are below that of Q2 2024/25, however the proportion reached – 30% – is higher than Q2 2024/25 and is above our 25% target of registrations from clients living in our most deprived neighbourhoods. Q2 2024/25 had a greater number of registrations which has set a higher target for this quarter. Reasons for a reduction in registration numbers includes the loss of the ability to direct targeted marketing and communication campaigns via social media, the loss of the Public Health Dorset website and the organisation's social media account no longer being used. To resolve this, a number of campaigns are planned through targeted marketing and alternative social media advertising. LiveWell Dorset has changed the basis on which the indicator is constructed, now looking at the 20% most deprived neighbourhoods locally when previously it was looking at the 20% most deprived neighbourhoods nationally, which increases the target audience quite significantly.
PC1A.4	Increase the percentage of Adult Social Care users who are satisfied with the care and support they receive	Annual	High	59% (March 2025)	62% (December 2025)	-		This is an annual measure not reported at Q2 so it has been marked as 'pending' until new information is available. New information should be available in March 2026.
PC1A.1	Increase the percentage of residents who have a good satisfaction with life	Annual	High	70% (March 2025)	-	-		This is an annual measure not reported at Q2 so it has been marked as 'pending' until new data is available. This measure relates to the Resident's Survey, so new data will be available when the next survey takes place.
PC1C.1	Increase the percentage of physically active adults	Annual	High	71.50% (June 2025)	-	-		This is an annual measure not reported at Q2 so it has been marked as 'pending' until new data is available. When new national averages are released, we will be able to set our target.
PC1C.2	Increase the percentage of physically active children and young people	Annual	High	61% (March 2025)	-	-		This is an annual measure not reported at Q2 so it has been marked as 'pending' until new data is available. When new national averages are released, we will be able to set our target.
PC1A.5	Increase the percentage of carers who are satisfied with the care and support they receive	Biannual	High	36% (March 2024)	38% (March 2026)	-		This is a biannual measure not reported at Q2 so it has been marked as 'pending' until new data is available. New data should be available in spring 2026.
Working together, everyone feels safe and secure								

Ref	Measure	Frequency	High or low figure is better	Baseline figure	Target	Q2 Data	Direction of travel & RAG	Commentary	
PC2A.1	Reduce levels of police recorded serious violent crime	Quarterly	Low	333 (June 2025)	313 (September 2025)	363 (September 2025)	↓	The figures were slightly higher in July than last year (137 to 122) but almost identical figures for August and September. The highest volume of serious violence is still sexual violence, and some work is being done to monitor public place sexual violence in a more comprehensive manner. The partnership structure for managing serious violence is changing also with a new Serious Violence Multi-Agency action group being formed with a police officer leading which is a change from our current serious violence delivery group structure.	
PC2B.1	Increase the percentage of residents who feel safe in their local area during the day	Annual	High	87% (March 2025)	-	-		This is an annual measure not reported at Q2 so it has been marked as 'pending' until new data is available. This measure relates to the Resident's Survey, so new data will be available when the next survey takes place.	
PC2B.2	Increase the percentage of residents who feel safe in their local area after dark	Annual	High	54% (March 2025)	-	-		This is an annual measure not reported at Q2 so it has been marked as 'pending' until new data is available. This measure relates to the Resident's Survey, so new data will be available when the next survey takes place.	
Those who need support receive it when and where they need it									
200	PC3C.1	Increase the number of individuals entering drug treatment	Quarterly	High	3,195 (March 2025)	3,127 (June 2025)	3,156 (June 2025)	↓	Q2 actual figures will not be available until end of November (the verified data via central government is about 8 – 12 weeks after the end of the quarter). Drugs activity can only be reported via verified data which is in the public domain Due to the government time lag in finalising publicly available figures, quarterly reporting for this measure will be one quarter behind. Since verification, we can now report that the actual Q1 figure is 3,156 adults in treatment. Q2 figures will be reported in full at Q3 and will be updated as soon as available on the live Corporate Performance dashboard.
	PC3A.1	Increase the percentage of Education Health Care Plans issued within 20 weeks	Quarterly	High	58.54% (June 2025)	70% (September 2025)	24.60% (September 2025)	↓	Since September 2024, we have been unable to resource the Educational Psychology (EP) team sufficiently to keep up with the number of requests for Education Health and Care Needs Assessments and Plans. BCP are showing an increase in the rate of Initial Requests per 10,000 population (0-25) between 2020 and 2024 with a rate of 105.7 in 2024 compared to 41.3 in 2020. BCP are above all the comparators in 2024 (Eng 88.1, SW 95.9 and SN 93.4). In 2024 our 20-week timeliness improved as a result of a cash injection to resource the EPS at the level which was required for them to meet the demand for EP assessments. Once this resource was spent, it has contributed to, but is not wholly accountable for, the extended timescales seen with the 20-week process more recently. From August 2025 the EP Team are prioritising assessments for children based on vulnerability factors

Ref	Measure	Frequency	High or low figure is better	Baseline figure	Target	Q2 Data	Direction of travel & RAG	Commentary
								weighed against enough new requests to enable the ECHP process to be completed in line with national average performance. The notable dip in performance in Q2 may be attributed in part to previous prioritisation of EP assessments which focussed only on a child's vulnerability factors. There were also some delays with BSO functions which are now resolved. Another factor is historic turbulence in staff turnover at EHCCO level which is now stabilising.
PC3B.1	Reduce the attainment gap and improve learning outcomes for children and young people in receipt of free school meals	Annual	Low	50.1 (Sept 2024)	35 (March 2026)	50.60 (September 2025)	↔	Provisional data collected locally is provided, national data will be published in the Autumn term, and the measure will be updated accordingly when available. BCP Council schools are significantly above national, regional and SN benchmarks from the previous year. However, we are unable to provide a direct comparison until the 2024/25 national benchmarking data is released by the Department for Education. There is a slight improvement on the previous year, based on the BCP Council provisional data.
PC3D.1	Ensure that the timeliness of assessments to determine the child's needs is conducive with offering the right service at the right time to children, young people and their families	Quarterly	High	95% (June 2025)	85% (March 2026)	96% (September 2025)	↑	This performance is significantly above national benchmarks (85%) and has remained consistently higher than all comparator authorities for an incredible eight consecutive quarters. Such positive performance is a direct reflection of the commitment of staff to children and families, and the clear processes in place to ensure consistency and timely assessments.
Good quality homes are accessible, sustainable and affordable for all								
PC4B.1	Reduce the number of homeless households in bed and breakfast	Quarterly	Low	44 (June 2025)	40 (September 2025)	65 (September 2025)	↓	Households in bed & breakfast have increased in the past quarter, with the Housing service experiencing the highest level of demand during this period in the past 5 years. Homelessness demand has increased by 9% over the past year, with more recent drivers coming from no-fault evictions from the private rented sector. The impact of the future legislative changes in this market are forecast to continue to have a homelessness impact. Additional central Government grant resources will be focused on supporting the homelessness prevention agenda, with targeted interventions supporting household most likely to be at risk.
PC4A.1	Reduce the number of people rough sleeping	Quarterly	Low	49 (June 2025)	50 (September 2025)	66 (September 2025)	↓	The overall prevalence of rough sleeping continues to show reductions from the same period last year with an 11% reduction. Whilst seasonality continues to influence the total count, the profile of those rough sleeping has seen a marked change. There are 75% fewer people rough sleeping long term. Those new to rough sleeping are only seen a few times before they are helped into alternative accommodation, meaning that people are staying on the street for a shorter time. There are fewer people on the street now who are long term rough sleepers due to a concentrated effort by the council and

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								partners to find them the homes and support they need to prevent the risk of returning to the street.
PC4C.1	Increase the number of both completed new affordable and social rented homes	Quarterly	High	0 (June 2025)	100 (March 2026)	2 (September 2025)	↑	100 homes completed by end of March 2026 on target. 2 new homes completed this quarter at Craigmoor Avenue. 7 new homes at Grants Close, Bournemouth and High Street Christchurch due for completion in November 2025. Further build completions expected at Hillbourne and Templeman House in early 2026. 152 affordable homes currently under construction.
Local communities shape the services that matter to them								
PC5A.1	Increase the percentage of residents who feel they can influence decisions affecting their local area	Annual	High	30% (March 2025)	-	-		This is an annual measure not reported at Q2 so it has been marked as 'pending' until new data is available. This measure relates to the Resident's Survey, so new data will be available when the next survey takes place.
Employment is available for everyone and helps create value in our communities								
202								
PC6A.2	Increase the uptake of supported employment for those with learning disabilities	Quarterly	High	4.6% (June 2025)	4.5% (March 2026)	4.7% (September 2025)	↑	<p>The Supported Employment Review has been agreed as one of the six priorities of the co-produced Day Opportunities Strategy. Our Fulfilled Lives, strengths-based approach in Adult Social Care ensures that employment is explored with those people who are able to work. Dorset Work Matters is a joint project between Dorset HealthCare and Dorset Mental Health Forum and helps people who are accessing mental health services to find paid employment. Employment specialists have been working with people to reconnect them with their passions, interests, and skills, and use this as a focus for them to find employment. The employment specialists are skilled at working with employers to negotiate personalised reasonable adjustments and to ensure that the right support is in place to sustain work.</p> <p>The individual placement support workers have received an expansion in their funding over the next 5 years. The funding will include an extra 5 Individual Placement and Support (IPS) workers and a new team lead.</p>
PC6A.3	Increase the uptake of supported employment for those with mental health issues	Quarterly	High	2.6% (June 2025)	2.6% (March 2026)	2.4% (September 2025)	↓	<p>The Supported Employment Review has been agreed as one of the six priorities of the co-produced Day Opportunities Strategy. Our Fulfilled Lives, strengths-based approach in Adult Social Care ensures that employment is explored with those people who are able to work. Dorset Work Matters is a joint project between Dorset HealthCare and Dorset Mental Health Forum and helps people who are accessing mental health services to find paid employment. Employment specialists have been working with people to reconnect them with their passions, interests, and skills, and use this as a focus for them to find employment. The employment specialists are skilled at working with employers to negotiate personalised</p>

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								reasonable adjustments and to ensure that the right support is in place to sustain work. The individual placement support workers have received an expansion in their funding over the next 5-years. The funding will include an extra 5 Individual Placement and Support (IPS) workers and a new team lead.
Skills are continually developed, and people can access lifelong learning								
203 PC7B.1	Reduce the number of primary school aged children excluded from school	Termly	Low	0.012% (March 2025)	0.01% (March 2026)	0.012% (September 2025)	↔	<p>Data from Summer 2025 is currently latest available, showing 0.012%, which is in line with national averages and equivalent to 3 permanent exclusions, the same as the Spring term.</p> <p>It should be noted that the low number of children that are excluded from primary school can result in this indicator fluctuating greatly when in reality the number of children does not significantly change.</p> <p>Analysis of primary aged children excluded in the 2024/25 academic year highlighted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 92% (11 of 12) children either had an EHC Plan or were in the process of being assessed for one. - 92% (11 of 12) children were open to or had been referred to Children's Social Care or Targeted Family Support Services, however, only 38% of those referred accepted the offer of support. <p>This demonstrates that children with additional support needs are more likely to be excluded and suggests that sufficiency issues and current challenges assessing the needs of children with special educational needs may be a factor in the increase of primary aged children being excluded.</p> <p>The following actions have been taken to address the rise in primary aged children being excluded.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Additional funding has been secured to commission The Difference, a nationally respected organisation that has successfully supported schools and Local Authorities to reduce exclusions, to work with our schools to develop inclusive practice that will reduce exclusions. - A three-tier alternative provision model, that focuses on early intervention and preventing exclusion is being co-designed with schools and other stakeholders. - An Alternative Provision Panel at which schools can request additional resources to support children that are at risk of exclusion has been established.
PC7B.2	Reduce the number of secondary school aged children excluded from school	Termly	Low	0.137% (March 2025)	0.082% (March 2026)	0.067% (September 2025)	↑	<p>Data from the Summer 2025 is currently latest available, showing 0.067%, equivalent to 7 permanent exclusions, a decrease from 0.137% (35 permanent exclusions) in the Spring term.</p> <p>Although this indicator suggests improvement, data for the full academic year 2024/25 would indicate the BCP rate of</p>

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								<p>exclusion from secondary schools continue to remain high and significantly above the national average. 53% of exclusions in 2024/25 were of children with identified special education needs. There was a 48% increase between 2023/24 and 2044/25 of the number of children being excluded for drug and alcohol-related issues.</p> <p>The following actions have been taken to prevent children from being excluded.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We have commissioned 50 places for school leaders on 'The Difference's' Inclusion Leadership Programme. The Difference are a national education charity, which works with MATs and LAs to reduce lost learning. - A three-tier alternative provision model, that focuses on early intervention and preventing exclusion is being co-designed with schools and other stakeholders. - An Alternative Provision Panel at which schools can request additional resources to support children that are at risk of exclusion has been established.

Our Approach

There are sixteen measures that sit under the seven principles of 'Our Approach' priority. Six are measured **annually** and are shaded grey unless being reported in Q2 and ten are measured **quarterly**.

Ref	Measure	Frequency	High or low figure is better	Baseline figure	Target	Q2 Data	Direction of travel & RAG	Commentary
Working closely with partners, removing barriers and empowering others								
A1A.1	Increase the number of assets transferred to communities	Annual	High	1 (March 2025)	6 (March 2026)	-		This is an annual measure not reported at Q2 so it has been marked as 'pending' until new data is available. New data should be available in March 2026.
Providing accessible and inclusive services, showing care in our approach								
A2B.1	Raise the proportion of interactions that come from online platforms	Quarterly	High	71% (June 2025)	85% (March 2026)	78% (September 2025)	↑	Now that the new Dynamics platform is in place with improved functionality to support the roll out of self-serve options, the aim is to actively channel shift activity away from phone lines and on to self-serve options. A programme is being put together to deliver these changes. This will form part of the Customer Strategy refresh, which is currently being scoped now that the transformation programme has delivered the technological advances to the underlying systems. A deep dive is taking place into all aspects of the contact centre, a proportion of which will focus on increasing self-service.
A2A.1	Increase the proportion of people who use care services who find it easy to find information about services	Annual	High	68% (March 2025)	-	-		This is an annual measure not reported at Q2 so it has been marked as 'pending' until new data is available. New data and a new target should be available in March 2026.
A2A.2	Increase levels of trust in the council	Annual	High	48% (March 2025)	-	-		This is an annual measure not reported at Q2 so it has been marked as 'pending' until new data is available. This measure relates to the Resident's Survey, so new data will be available when the next survey takes place.
Using data, insights and feedback to shape services and solutions								
A3B.1	Increase satisfaction with the way the council runs things	Annual	High	41% (December 2023)	-	-		This is an annual measure not reported at Q2 so it has been marked as 'pending' until new data is available. This measure relates to the Resident's Survey, so new data will be available when the next survey takes place.
A3A.1	Reduce percentage of upheld Ombudsman complaints per 100,000 of the population	Quarterly	Low	0.25% (March 2025)	0.25% (September 2025)	0.21% (September 2025)	↑	During the last quarter the Ombudsman made 16 decisions relating to BCP complaints. Of these, 15 were not upheld, leaving one case which was upheld. This equals the same number that was upheld in the previous quarter meaning performance has not changed. The low number of upheld complaints reflects improved complaint handling at stage 1, and the commitment to a more centralised approach to complaints training
Intervening as early as possible to improve outcomes								

Ref	Measure	Frequency	High or low figure is better	Baseline figure	Target	Q2 Data	Direction of travel & RAG	Commentary
A4A.1	Decrease the percentage of Children and Young People returning to Early Help (targeted support) within 12 months	Quarterly	Low	13% (June 2025)	15% (March 2026)	10% (September 2025)	↑	The most common closure reasons preceding re-referral in Q2 were the Level 1 and Level 4, which suggests that both early closure and escalating needs are key drivers of re-referral, which has remained consistently low. The focus remains on the wider Early Help network to continue to provide intervention, therefore Level 1 closures may indicate that some children's needs were underestimated or support ended too soon/ was not effective, while Level 4 step-ups reflect children and families whose needs intensified needing a higher level of support/ intervention. We are strong performers in this area indicating that our level 3 support works well and meets the needs of most families.
Developing a passionate, proud, valued and diverse workforce								
2026 A5B.2	Increase the percentage of equality monitoring data collected from staff	Quarterly	High	64.49% (June 2025)	70% (September 2025)	65.56% (September 2025)	↑	Slight increase in overall completion rates. People and culture have now devised a way to import Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) information captured on the Recruitment System to Dynamics F&O which should ensure no data provided by colleagues is missed going forward. Director of People and Culture to emphasise to DSG members the importance of encouraging colleagues within their service to complete their EDI data. Overall completion rate: 65.56% Disability completion rate: 76.75% of colleagues have provided this data Ethnicity completion rate: 76.54% of colleagues have provided this data Marriage/Civil Partnership completion rate: 50.23% of colleagues have provided this data Gender Identity completion rate: 51.25% of colleagues have provided this data Religion completion rate: 69.16% of colleagues have provided this data Sexual Orientation completion rate: 69.43% of colleagues have provided this data
A5C.1	Increase the number of successful candidates from underrepresented groups for council jobs	Quarterly	High	4.8% (June 2025)	6% (September 2025)	3.92% (September 2025)	↓	Out of the 3,897 applicants who responded this quarter, 11.03 % declared a disability (430 applicants). Out of those applicants successful in the recruitment process, the % of candidates declaring a disability is 14.95 % (16 applicants). The differential between overall applicants and successful candidates for this underrepresented group remains a positive figure for the last quarter.
A5B.1	Increase levels of employee engagement	Annual	High	60% (March 2024)	62% (September 2025)	63% (September 2025)	↑	Employee engagement continues to trend upward, exceeding our target for 2025. Starting from a baseline of 60% in 2024, we set an ambitious goal of 62% and achieved 63%, reflecting a sustained improvement in engagement levels across the organisation. This progress is thanks to the hard work of services across the Council, which have focused on improving engagement. Individual data shows

Ref	Measure	Frequency	High or low figure is better	Baseline figure	Target	Q2 Data	Direction of travel & RAG	Commentary
								significant improvement, largely attributed to the rollout of the new Performance Framework and the associated impact of creating dedicated time for discussions around Learning and Development opportunities. In addition, the certainty and successful delivery of the Pay and Reward Programme is believed to have played a vital role in contributing to this increase, reinforcing confidence and fairness across the workforce.
Creating an environment for innovation, learning and leadership								
A6B.1	Increase the number of current council employees supported to undertake apprenticeships	Quarterly	High	123 (June 2025)	126 (September 2025)	126 (September 2025)	↑	In the last quarter, 11 existing colleagues successfully completed their apprenticeships and 4 withdrew from their programmes, which accounts for the slightly lower increase to normal, although we remain on target.
A6B.2	Increase the number of newly recruited colleagues into apprenticeship posts	Quarterly	High	39 (June 2025)	40 (September 2025)	39 (September 2025)	↔	The number of apprentices employed since the last reporting period has not changed and remains on target.
Using our resources sustainably to support our ambitions								
A7A.2	Increase the percentage of successful grant applications	Quarterly	High	100% (June 2025)	92% (September 2025)	99.64% (September 2025)	↔	Total of 6 bids, all successful. £95,000 awarded by Environment Agency for Debris Screen Health and Safety Works. £6,222,000 awarded by Environment Agency for Poole Bridge to Hunger Hill Flood Defences. £1,501,000 awarded by Arts Council England for Museum Estate and Development Fund. £73,000 awarded by Veolia for Queens Park Play Area. £376,000 awarded by Arts Council England for Poole Museum. £93,000 awarded by DEFRA for King Charles III England Coast Path.
A7A.3	Increase the percentage of business rates collected	Quarterly	High	31.65% (June 2025)	49% (September 2025)	57.04% (September 2025)	↑	This remains on target.
A7A.4	Increase the percentage of council tax collected	Quarterly	High	27.25% (June 2025)	49% (September 2025)	52.9% (September 2025)	↑	The % collected at the end of quarter 2 is slightly less than last year, but in excess of any intervention level.
A7A.1	Increase the percentage of residents who think the council provides value for money	Annual	High	33% (March 2025)	-	-		This is an annual measure not reported at Q2 so it has been marked as 'pending' until new data is available. This measure relates to the Resident's Survey, so new data will be available when the next survey takes place.

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Positive Exception Performance Report:

Please use this report to highlight outstanding performance during the last quarter, the factors that drove the good performance, and the reason it is important. This report will make up part of the overall corporate performance report presented to Cabinet.

Indicator Description (taken from performance scorecard):

Increase the number of publicly available Electric Vehicle (EV) charge points

2025/26 Q2 outturn: 265

Quarterly Target: 240

Reason for level of performance (what drove success?):

The number of available Council and public Electric Vehicle (EV) chargers has increased to 265 in the latest Government figures. As soon as we commence the Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Work, which is imminent, we will exceed targets.

It took longer than expected to meet the target this quarter as procurement took much longer than expected due to staffing issues at the time. The procurement of local electric vehicle infrastructure grant (LEVI) was delayed and although we have made the award three months late, we still needed to iron out the contract amendments between both parties. The programming of sites ready for delivering is on-going.

The outcome of the local electric vehicle infrastructure grant (LEVI) bid was excellent news for BCP Council moving forward, we had set a minimum of 750 7kw charging sockets and the winning bidder Connected kerb came in at 1100 charging sockets, 550 dual charger bollards for streets without off-street parking.

The six charging hubs have been delayed due to the supplier, the first of these was finalised last week (Littledown) with more hubs following very soon. These will be multiple rapid charging locations with their own substation (when required) including Seldown which will power the two new electric buses arriving at the end of this financial year for route one.

The homeowner chargers that will be installed through the charging gully programme trial is about to commence, this was held up by waiting for the grant funding that we now have of £93,000, awarded last Thursday 30th Oct. We can use £1,200 towards each installation. We are starting with a ten-gully trial, which we hope to expand out after an agreed timescale. After all the various delays, we now have a great foundation to deliver on all fronts.

Completed by: Martin Jolly

Date: 13th November 2025

Service Unit Head approval: John McVey

Date: 13th November 2025

Exceptional Performance Report

Please use this report to explain the reasons for performance meeting or exceeding target, what was achieved, why did it happen, and what the next steps are/could be. This report will make up part of the overall corporate performance report presented to Cabinet.

Indicator Description (taken from performance scorecard):

Increase the number of Fixed Penalty Notice's served for fly tipping and littering offences

2025/26 Q2 outturn: 1428

Quarterly Target: 844

Reason for level of performance:

The summer months see an increase in visitor numbers and anecdotal concerns regarding litter in key locations such as beaches and open spaces. As such, Public Protection and Wise Ltd work together to ensure maximum resourcing in Q2 to ensure litter enforcement was robust. This year WISE Ltd also supported enforcement of the Coastal Public Spaces Protection Order for issues such as urination and fires.

Actions/Next steps:

Public Protection and Wise Ltd will continue to monitor footfall trends to ensure robust enforcement of environmental crime. There is also a communications campaign in progress to educate around the impact and enforcement in relation to flytipping

Learnings to share:

Planned resourcing that is scaled up based on predicted demand

Completed by: Sophie Sajic

Date: 19/11/25

Exceptional Performance Report

Please use this report to explain the reasons for performance meeting or exceeding target, what was achieved, why did it happen, and what the next steps are/could be. This report will make up part of the overall corporate performance report presented to Cabinet.

Indicator Description (taken from performance scorecard):

Increase footfall across our three town centres

2025/26 Q2 outturn: 22.54m

Quarterly Target: 18m

Reason for level of performance:

The summer season has delivered a strong footfall performance across Bournemouth, Christchurch, and Poole, reflecting the area's appeal as a summer destination. Quarterly figures show significant improvement in what is typically a challenging metric.

This success is underpinned by targeted interventions from the Economic Development team, including:

- Strategic Support: Continued backing for the four Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) and proactive engagement with key stakeholders such as Legal & General, Savills, and a broad network of independent businesses.
- Branding Initiatives: The "Support Local" campaign has reinforced town centre identity and demonstrated the Council's commitment to local businesses.
- Events and Community Empowerment: By supporting third-party events and enabling communities to develop their own, the Events team has fostered a sense of ownership and vibrancy. Groups such as Powerhouse, Poole Quay Events Forum, and Christchurch Chamber are advancing plans with Council support.

These combined efforts have strengthened town centre resilience and contributed to a positive visitor experience.

Actions/Next steps:

Sustaining strong footfall across Bournemouth, Christchurch, and Poole during the festive season while mitigating weather-related risks is a big focus and concern but key interventions have been put in place to help with mitigation.

Festive Activities

- The launch and promotion of Christmas lights in all three town centres to attract visitors
- Supporting seasonal events to create a festive atmosphere and increase dwell time

Events

- Collaboration with community groups and BIDs to curate festive events
- Ensure event calendars are widely promoted across Council channels and partner networks

Small Business Saturday (6th Dec)

- Delivery of a public-facing campaign highlighting local businesses and asking the public to identify their favourite shops and local experiences
- Provide further 'Support Local' stickers to amplify reach

Learnings to share:

Working together works - Partnering with BIDs, local businesses, and community groups makes events and interventions stronger and more successful

Consistent messaging helps - The "Support Local" campaign showed that clear, joined-up marketing brings more awareness to town and district centres

Events bring people in - Seasonal events are key for footfall. Planning early and promoting well makes a big difference

Data helps us react quickly - Tracking footfall means we can change plans and target marketing if needed

Weather matters - Bad weather can reduce footfall, good weather helps us as a conurbation. Having consistent online messaging helps keep people engaged

Completed by: Hannah Porter

Date: 13.11.25

Positive Exception Performance Report:

Please use this report to highlight outstanding performance during the last quarter, the factors that drove the good performance, and the reason it is important. This report will make up part of the overall corporate performance report presented to Cabinet.

Indicator Description (taken from performance scorecard):

Ensure that the timeliness of assessments to determine the child's needs is conducive with offering the right service at the right time to children, young people, and their families.

2024/25 Q4 outturn: 94%	2025/26 Q1 outturn: 96%	2025/26 Q1 target: 85%
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Reason for level of performance (what drove success?):

The dedication and professionalism of our social work teams continue to shine through in our assessment timeliness, with an outstanding 96% of assessments completed within the statutory 45 working day timeframe. This performance is not only significantly above national benchmarks (85%) it has remained consistently higher than all comparator authorities for an incredible seven consecutive quarters. Such sustained excellence is a direct reflection of an unwavering commitment to children and families, and an ability to deliver timely, high-quality interventions even in the face of complex and demanding caseloads.

Quarter 1 has seen further improvement, with the average time to complete assessments reduced to just 21 working days—two days faster than the previous quarter and four days quicker than the same period last year. This remarkable progress is a testament to the relentless focus on efficiency and the ability to adapt and refine practice to meet the needs of the community. It speaks volumes about the skill, energy, and determination of our social work teams, who continue to go above and beyond to ensure that every child receives the support they need without delay.

Most impressively, 59% of assessments were completed within 20 working days—an extraordinary achievement that places us 28.8 percentage points above the national average of 30.2%. This result is not just a number; it represents the real impact of teams that are deeply committed to safeguarding and early intervention. Their hard work, resilience, and passion for making a difference are driving transformative outcomes for children and families across the directorate. We are immensely proud of their achievements and grateful for their continued excellence.

Reason for significance:

These improvements in assessment timeliness are profoundly important to the children and families in Bournemouth, Christchurch, and Poole (BCP), as they directly impact the speed and quality of support provided during critical moments in their lives. When assessments are completed quickly and efficiently, it means that children experiencing vulnerability or risk are identified sooner, and the right interventions can be put in place without delay. This can be life-changing—ensuring safety, stability, and access to services that promote wellbeing and development.

Completed by: Nigel Burton

Date: 10/09/2025

Exceptional Performance Report

Please use this report to explain the reasons for performance meeting or exceeding target, what was achieved, why did it happen, and what the next steps are/could be. This report will make up part of the overall corporate performance report presented to Cabinet.

Indicator Description (taken from performance scorecard): *Decrease the percentage of Children and Young People returning to Early Help (targeted support) within 12 months*

2025/26 Q2 outturn: 10%

Quarterly Target: 15%

Reason for level of performance:

The Early Help and Targeted Intervention Service (EH&TIS) place resilience and empowerment at the heart of their work with families. This can be evidenced in the robust performance shown against the percentage of children and young people being re-referred into BCP Early Help Services. We can see from the data that the majority of re-referrals in Q2 are families that are returning for support at least 2 years after their initial referral, with some coming back 3 and 4 years later. This indicates that the reasons for re-presentation are likely to be novel ones rather than a repetition of prior support needs which would be expected, given the fluctuating needs of some families, however 10% re-referrals is testament to the majority of families being supported to build resilience, strong networks and that have learnt the extent of their own capability.

It is also worth noting the improvement in performance between Q1 and Q2, where re-referral rates have dropped by 4percentage points from 14% in Q1 to 10% in Q2. This is further evidence of the ability of the EH&TIS to maintain performance over time in an area that evidences sustainable change for the families we work with.

There are several contributory factors to the consistent performance of EH&TIS against the decrease in % of children and young people returning to EH&TIS within 12 months:

The right help at the right time:

EH have strong processes in relation to their practice standards and graduated response. This allows sound decisions to be reached in relation to threshold, ensuring that families are receiving the correct service for their needs, with minimal points of handover or duplication. Once families are allocated to a lead professional, Early Help Support Workers (EHSW) build discussions on closure in from the very start of the work, ensuring that families have the opportunity to share what success looks like for them and can then work with us to not only reach their goals, but to develop the resilience to achieve the same result without our support.

Strong holistic assessment and planning:

EHSW's work with families to create robust assessments with the child's voice at the centre. Significant effort is put into assessing and analysing family strengths and needs, supporting families to create a plan that involves a network that can be utilised when things become difficult. Families own their assessment and are an integral part of planning and family network meetings. Putting families at the heart of this work ensures that they are invested in their own outcomes and contributes to a lower level of re-referrals.

A passionate workforce:

EHSW's and their management teams are passionate about what they do. There has been significant change within the area of Early Help, with staff teams being reconfigured, new skills being required and new processes to adjust to. Teams have successfully compartmentalised and, in doing so, have ensured

that the tide of change has not affected the high quality and level of service that families receive. EHSW's are passionate advocates of families' autonomy and of their strengths. They ensure their voices are heard and that they have the support that they need around them to truly thrive. When families know that they are capable, they are less likely to experience learned helplessness and require services in the future.

Strong Partnerships:

Our EH Strategy focuses on the power of networks, both within families and as professionals. We work with families to build their personal networks of professionals, community, friends and family but we also know the power of our EH Partnership network and where families might benefit from services outside of the EH&TIS. Our Early Help Advice Point is able to effectively triage families being referred into services, whether for the first time or subsequently, and to ensure that they are signposted to the correct service to best meet their needs. These conversations are based upon the families' wishes and feelings and, again, are built on the premise that where a family feels they have choice and are autonomous, they are more likely to engage and have successful outcomes.

Actions/Next steps:

These improvements in re-referral numbers are profoundly important to the children and families in BCP, as they reflect that families are receiving the right support at the right time. When re-referral rates are low, we know that families that previously sought support have built resilience and autonomy, that they are advocating for themselves and finding their own solutions without the need for intervention from professionals. This is our goal for all our families, and we will work towards continual improvement in this area to ensure the best outcomes for our families.

Learnings to share:

The re-referral numbers are very low and have remained consistently so. The most common closure reasons preceding re-referral in Q2 were closure to Universal services at Level 1 and escalation to services at statutory Level 4. There is not enough data to indicate a trend and further analysis of data over a longer period would be required to assess whether early closure and escalating needs were the drivers of re-referral. It is also worth noting that across our system, we would expect some families to experience challenges beyond the scope of EH that require statutory intervention. Equally, we would expect a number of families to experience some issues 'going it alone' as this is a big step. A pattern in either would be concerning but, at this point and with the data we have, there is no pattern that indicates that there is an issue with the timeliness of closure or a lack of impactful work being delivered.

We will monitor the trends to ensure that any patterns are identified and analysed at the earliest opportunity.

Completed by: **Nina Wilson – Service Manager**

Date: 13/11/2025

Service Unit Head approval with date:

Nigel Burton - Head of Service for MASH, Assessment and Out of Hours Teams

Date 13/11/2025

Exception Performance Report

Please use this report to explain the reasons for performance not meeting target, the risks this presents in each of the sections and the actions and intervention planned or in place to improve performance and mitigate the risks identified.

This report will make up part of the overall corporate performance report presented to Cabinet.

Indicator Description (taken from performance scorecard):

Increase the percentage of all major planning applications determined on time

2025/26 Q2 outturn: 69%

Quarterly Target: 80%

Reason for level of performance:

Planning application determination data is sourced from central government and provides year-to-date quarterly performance updates. 20 major planning applications were determined in Q2, although throughput and total number of decisions is high in terms of the number of decisions issued in time Performance has dipped in Q2. Factors which have influenced this include:

Determining a number of older applications – We have been issuing a number of older applications where the applicant had been unwilling to agree to an extension of time

Staff sickness at the senior planner level – This has reduced capacity to handle and determine major planning applications. We have some officers on long term sick leave, and it has been necessary to re-allocate their case load. This puts pressure on exiting staff and applicants are often unwilling to agree to extensions of time if the application has already gone beyond the decision date.

Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) – This has been a source of delay for a number of major planning applications, due to the complexity of the matter and the limited resource to provide detailed feedback on BNG (There are only 2 ecologists at the Council). Due to the time it has taken to agree a suitable solution some applicants lost patience and did not agree an extension of time.

Delays in consultee responses – This often leads to applications going beyond the decision date and a number of agents are often unwilling to agree extensions of time in these situations as they are unhappy with the length of time it is taken the consultee to respond.

Reduction in Agency Staff – We have been gradually reducing the number of agency staff which has impacted on our capacity at senior planner level. This results in higher caseloads for the existing staff putting more pressure on them to deliver.

Committee overturns – Some applications were overturned at committee and the time it took to agree reasons for refusal went over the agreed extension of time. Applicants were unwilling to agree a further EOT as app was now being refused.

Summary of financial implications:

Increased risk of being placed on special measures if government performance targets are not met.

Increased risk of planning fees having to be refunded if the government's planning guarantee is not met.

Summary of legal implications:

Increased potential for number of appeals due to higher number of refused planning applications

Summary of human resources implications:
Increased/ high workloads for existing staff, could affect staff moral leading to staff looking elsewhere for a job. High workloads could result in increased levels of stress for the team and possible staff sickness
Summary of sustainability impact:
No Impact
Summary of public health implications:
No Impact
Summary of equality implications:
No Impact
Actions taken or planned to improve performance:
<p>Staff training on BNG so they are less reliant on seeking advice from the ecologist thereby reducing delays in the consultee process.</p> <p>New protocol being put into place with regards to procedure for seeking an extension of time to a planning application. Case officer to review an application no later than 6 weeks after receipt, if it looks likely that it will not be possible to determine in time then to seek an EOT at that point. Should an agent decline then to determine the application within the timeframe.</p> <p>A new policy on accepting amended plans has recently been adopted. This sets out a clear procedure for when we will accept amended plans or not. This will enable the case officer to have a clear framework for assessing and determining the planning application. This includes refusing applications which are unacceptable rather than seeking to negotiate a solution which often elongates the process unnecessarily and leading to applications being determined past the decision date.</p> <p>New report templates have been developed to streamline the report writing process and help reduce time spent by case officers writing reports allowing them to focus on issuing decisions.</p>
<p>Completed by: Jon Bishop Date: 05/11/2025</p>
Service Unit Head approval with date:

Exception Performance Report

Please use this report to explain the reasons for performance not meeting target, the risks this presents in each of the sections and the actions and intervention planned or in place to improve performance and mitigate the risks identified.

This report will make up part of the overall corporate performance report presented to Cabinet.

Indicator Description (taken from performance scorecard):

Increase the percentage of waste diverted from landfill

2025/26 Q2 outturn: 86.25%

Quarterly Target: 90%

Reason for level of performance:

A temporary decrease in our landfill diversion rate is due to a decision made by our waste contractors to send residual waste to landfill rather than to Energy from Waste (EfW) facilities. This decision was part of their contingency plan to remain within the limits of the Environment Agency site permits. It was necessary during a period when several regional EfW facilities were undergoing scheduled maintenance resulting in a shortage of available capacity. We will continue to monitor this situation and anticipate an improvement in our diversion rate during Q3 and Q4.

Summary of financial implications:

The cost to BCP Council remains the same regardless of where our contractors send waste.

Summary of legal implications: n/a

Summary of human resources implications: n/a

Summary of sustainability impact:

While we remain committed to minimising landfill use and promoting sustainable waste management, our ability to influence these decisions is limited by the current contract, which allows our contractors to select the final disposal facility.

Summary of public health implications: n/a

Summary of equality implications: n/a

Actions taken or planned to improve performance

We continue to work closely with our contractors to encourage our landfill diversion rate to be as high as possible. We are pleased to report that waste is once again being processed through the usual Energy from Waste and Mechanical Biological Treatment routes, which is expected to improve our landfill diversion rate in the future.

Completed by: Mariana Tomasova, Strategic Waste Officer

Date: 31.10.2025

Service Unit Head approval with date:



04/11/2025

Exception Performance Report

Please use this report to explain the reasons for performance not meeting target, the risks this presents in each of the sections and the actions and intervention planned or in place to improve performance and mitigate the risks identified.

This report will make up part of the overall corporate performance report presented to Cabinet.

Indicator Description (taken from performance scorecard): Increase the percentage of Education Health Care Plans issued within 20 weeks

2025/26 Q2 outturn: 24.6%

Quarterly Target: 70%

Reason for level of performance:

Since September 2024, we have been unable to resource the Educational Psychology (EP) team sufficiently to keep up with the number of requests for Education Health and Care (EHC) Needs Assessments and Plans. The rate of Initial Requests per 10,000 population shows that BCP have seen an increase in initial requests between 2020 and 2024 with a rate of 105.7 in 2024 more than double compared to 41.3 in 2020. BCP are above all the comparator groups in 2024 including the national average at 88.1, the regional average at 95.9 and also above statistical neighbours 93.4.

In 2024 our 20-week timeliness improved due to a cash injection to resource the Educational Psychology Service at the level which was required for them to meet the demand for EP assessments. The benefit of this funding was clearly seen in the data, with a period of strong performance (above 70%) between Jun 24 and April 25. Bids to secure funding to resource the Educational Psychology Team at a higher level were unsuccessful and the impact of this was forecast from mid 2024. Several further bids have been made to fund the service at the level required to keep pace with the increased demand in order to comply with our statutory duties –unsuccessfully.

The ceasing of this additional resource contributed significantly to, but is not wholly accountable for, the extended timescales seen with the 20-week process more recently. Some delays were attributed to administrative processes between the Business Support Team and Assistant EHCCO's /EHCCO's. These are now resolved and will need close monitoring.

The Educational Team have been prioritising children for assessment based on vulnerability factors and, enough new requests to enable the ECH process to be completed in line with national average performance. The notable dip in performance in Q2 may be attributed in part to previous prioritisation of EP assessments –until August 2025 -which focussed only on a child's vulnerability factors. Other factors are historic turbulence in staff turnover at EHCCO level which is now stabilising although this may not mean that the timescales will improve as the rise in referrals to the system are increasing year on year.

Summary of legal implications:

Failure to adhere to statutory timescales as set out in the Children and Families Act a2014 /SEND Code of Practice 2015

Actions taken or planned to improve performance:

Several bids to resource the Educational Psychology Service at the level required to meet demand have been made through 2024 and 2025. Review current practice of how EP advice for SEND statutory assessments are carried out once the Principal Educational Psychologist is in post later 2025 /early 2026

<p>Completed by: Stefanie Gehrig Clark – Head of Performance, Governance & Systems</p> <p>Date: 17 October 2025</p>
<p>Service Unit Head approval with date:</p> <p>Jeanette York, Head of SEND Assessment and Review – 20 October 2025</p> <p>Karen Chester, Interim Head of SEND Strategic – 20 October 2025</p>

Exception Performance Report

Please use this report to explain the reasons for performance not meeting target, the risks this presents in each of the sections and the actions and intervention planned or in place to improve performance and mitigate the risks identified.

This report will make up part of the overall corporate performance report presented to Cabinet.

Indicator Description (taken from performance scorecard):
Increase the percentage of residents who are satisfied with their local area as a place to live

2024/25 Q4 outturn: 75%	Target: 84%
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Reason for level of performance:

The Resident’s Survey is now conducted every 2 years. The last one was done in 2024, and the next one is due in autumn 2026.

The last survey showed that satisfaction with the local area remained consistent between 2023 and 2024 with 78% of respondents satisfied with the local area as a place to live. This was 3% higher than the national benchmark observed through the LGA poll.

Unfortunately, levels of satisfaction didn’t increase to the levels observed in 2021 which saw 84% of respondents satisfied with the local area as a place to live.

These figures must be seen in the context of the world around us including

- international and national events
- the lack of growth in the economy and the continual rise in the cost of living
- continual technological advances such as artificial intelligence
- how we are as a society following the COVID pandemic

And, considered in the context of local challenges that are faced by the Council including:

- The Council’s finances
- Increasing demand for services, especially social care
- A recent history of political change

Additionally, levels of satisfaction with the local area vary across the conurbation and although caution is advised as sample sizes at ward level are very small, some areas across the conurbation are markedly

different. For example, Burton and Grange have very high levels of satisfaction with 96% of respondents saying they are satisfied living in the local area compared to Bournemouth Town Centre where this decreases to 53% satisfied.

Summary of financial implications:

The Council's financial position means an inevitable change in service provision. This is unlikely to change soon despite a forecast balanced Medium Term Financial Plan.

Summary of equality implications:

The resident's survey is open to everyone in Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole, with every effort taken to ensure people with any protected characteristics were informed about and able to take the survey. The data therefore reflects the views of those who responded. Further work can be done to analyse the results to establish whether the change in satisfaction is stronger amongst those with one or more protected characteristic.

Actions taken or planned to improve performance:

As a Council we continually strive to achieve our ambitions and our shared vision.

Through the Corporate Strategy Delivery Board, senior officers

- review progress every month
- encourage and oversee projects that implement new systems and processes that improve efficiency and deliver better outcomes for residents and visitors
- monitor and review risks and ensure that there are mitigations in place

Successes regularly reported through our quarterly performance report and in other media show that the Council can deliver quality services on the current resource levels, but as demand for services continues to rise and consequently so do costs, to keep at the same level there is a need for more funding.

Unfortunately, Government grant continues to decrease. This means savings need to be found each year which will and already is having an impact on service delivery.

This does not mean we will not continually strive to achieve our ambitions however, as we continually look for ways to improve and be more efficient. In many cases this means utilising technology, working in different ways and innovating new solutions.

The Council has limited ability to change the national or international picture too, but there is continued lobbying of Government through appropriate channels on national issues, and involvement in shaping new policies and partnerships by contributing evidence, data and examples.

Completed by: Lisa Stuchberry and Carly Hoyle

Date: 13.11.25